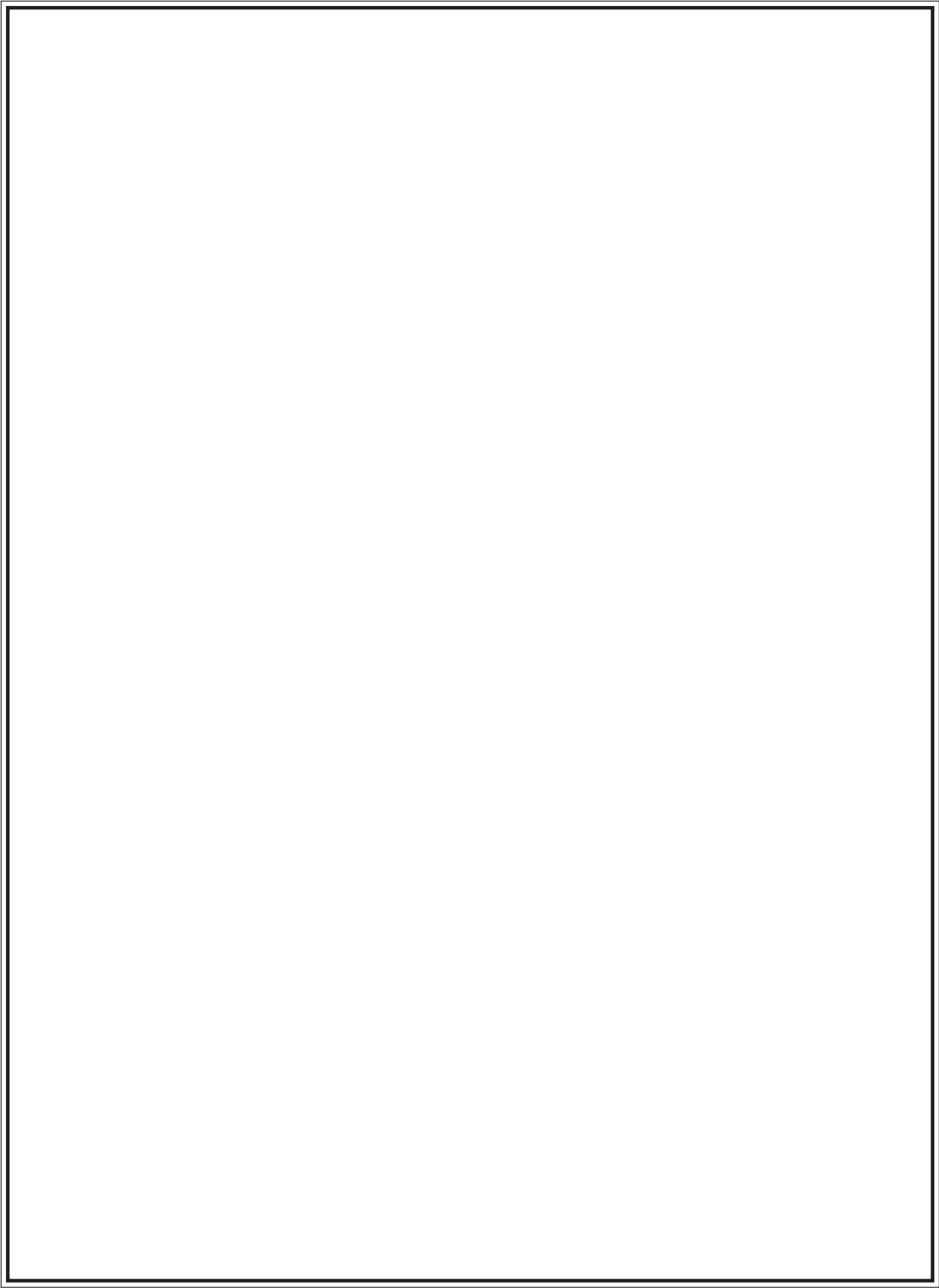
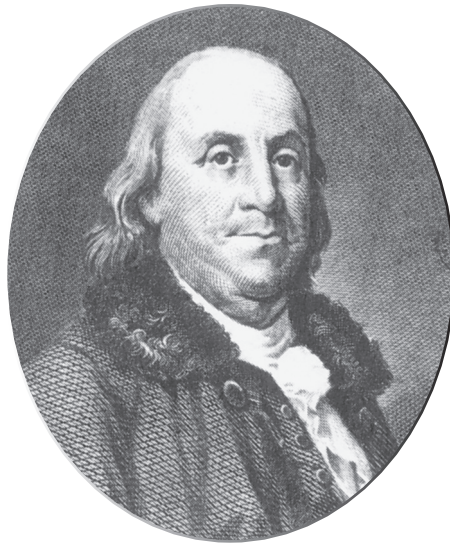

Historic Postage Stamps of the United States



Mystic Stamp Company
America's Leading Stamp Dealer





Benj. Franklin



G Washington

❧ 1852-1898 ❧

Washington – 3¢ Dull red. Type II. Missing outer frame lines at top or bottom. Side frame lines extend beyond stamp design as they were carved into the full length of the printing plate.

Washington – 3¢ Rose. On April 12, 1861, the Civil War erupted at Fort Sumter. Less than two months later, the United States discontinued postal services to the South. Fearing that these stamps would be sent to the North and sold (thus providing money for the Confederate States) the United States sent a proclamation to all postmasters requesting that the remainders be sent to Washington. New designs were issued in August and the old stamps were demonetized (declared no longer valid for postage). These stamps were used extensively by Union soldiers.

Washington – 3¢ Red. “F” Grill. This grill measures 9 x 13 millimeters with 11 to 12 by 15 to 17 points. The “F” grill is classified as a “male” grill as the pattern was created by pressing sharp points into the stamp paper.

Franklin – 1¢ Dark Ultramarine. Printed by the American Banknote Company on soft, porous paper. Includes a secret mark – the pearl to the left of the denomination number has a dash in the lower part.

Garfield – 5¢ Yellow brown. An officer in the Union Army during the Civil War, James A. Garfield also served for nine terms in the House of Representatives before being elected as our 20th president. Issued five months after his assassination, the intended color was black, to symbolize mourning. Mrs. Garfield, however, did not like the proofs and suggested brown be used instead.

Franklin – 1¢ Gray blue. The lines outside the medallion were strengthened, causing the background of the stamp to appear almost solid. In addition, the ornaments in the upper corners were shaded.

Washington – 2¢ Red brown. In March 1883, Congress passed an act which lowered the First Class mail rate from 3¢ per half ounce to 2¢ per half ounce, thus creating the need for this stamp. The new lower rate dramatically increased the volume of mail.

Franklin – 1¢ Ultramarine. The stamps of 1890 to 1893 marked a big change from earlier stamps. These new designs were smaller and more square-shaped, starting a new tradition that continued into the 21st century.

Washington – 2¢ Green. In 1887 and 1888, some stamps of the 1870-89 regular issues were produced in new colors. On August 15, 1887, an official postal circular announced the 2¢ red brown issue would be printed in green.

Washington – 2¢ Lake. Originally printed in reddish purple, the color of this stamp generated numerous complaints. In addition to being unattractive, the ink would run when soaked in water.

Washington – 2¢ Carmine. Due to complaints about the previous color, the decision was made to re-issue the stamp in carmine.

Webster – 10¢ Green. Daniel Webster was the highest-paid attorney of his day. His eloquent speeches influenced judges, juries, and members of Congress.

Landing of Columbus – 2¢ Brown violet. This stamp shows Columbus coming ashore at Guanahani (San Salvador) in the West Indies. He claimed the land in the name of King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella of Spain. A popular error known as the “Broken Hat” variety occurred during the printing of this stamp – when a break developed in the printing press’s transfer roll. The flaw caused a piece to be missing from the hat of the foreground figure to the left of Columbus.

Franklin – 1¢ Blue. The US printed stamps on watermarked paper from 1895 to 1915 to prevent counterfeiting. The letters “USPS” were impressed into the paper during its manufacturing. The 1895 issues contain double line watermarks. The 1¢ stamp paid the postcard rate.

Farming in the West – 2¢ Copper red. This stamp shows the amount of machinery and horses it took to run a large farm out West. The stamp design is from a picture which was taken from an actual scene of 61 horses and their drivers working one section of land.

1852-1898



DULL RED

Washington (II)



ROSE

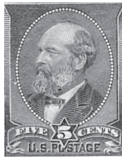
Washington



Washington



Franklin



Garfield



Franklin



Washington



Franklin



Washington



Washington



Washington



Webster



Landing of Columbus



Franklin



Farming in the West

1901-1923

Fast Express Train – 2¢ Carmine and black. In recognition of the tie that truly united East and West, this issue illustrates the *Empire State Express*. In 1901, this four-car locomotive truly was a modern machine and could easily travel over 100 miles per hour.

Franklin – 1¢ Blue green. Disapproved by art critics as well as stamp experts, the 1¢ stamp received numerous unfavorable comments. Many felt the portrait looked like a caricature, while the overall design was unflattering.

Washington – 2¢ Carmine. When stamp experts saw the beautiful proofs of this stamp in black they agreed it was the finest stamp produced. Unfortunately, when the actual stamp was printed in red, the result was considered disappointing.

Washington – 2¢ Carmine. A new 2¢ stamp issued in January 1903 was met with much criticism by the public. It was felt the portrait of Washington did not resemble him and the stamp appeared too crowded. The Washington “Shield” stamp, also known as the “two-cent revised design,” was issued in November. The public positively responded.

Franklin – 1¢ Green. In 1908, the Post Office Department issued a new set of Definitive (regular issue) Stamps. The border designs were identical, with a much cleaner and more modern look than previous issues. This made preparation work easier and extended the life of the printing plates. The 1¢ stamp is the only one to picture Franklin, the rest feature Washington.

Washington – 2¢ Carmine. The design on this stamp is based on J.A. Houdon’s bust of Washington. It paid the domestic letter rate. The denomination appears in words rather than numerals, which violated the UPU’s regulations.

Washington – 1¢ Green. The Series of 1912-14 broke with tradition by replacing Benjamin Franklin with George Washington on the 1¢ stamp.

Washington – 2¢ Carmine. After the 1¢ and 2¢ stamps were issued in the Series of 1912-14, it was pointed out that the designs didn’t conform to Universal Postal Union regulations. By their standards, all denominations were to be expressed in numerals so they could be understood in any language. The 3¢ to \$1 plates were changed to comply with these guidelines, but the 1¢ and 2¢ were left alone as they had already been released.

Washington – 4¢ Brown. When the 1908 series was issued, all stamps were perforated 12 gauge. The public and postal workers complained because the sheets came apart easily. The perforating machines were altered to 10 perforations per 2

centimeters, beginning with the 1914 issues.

Washington – 2¢ Carmine. Type III. Can be distinguished from other types by the shading lines on the top side of both ribbons at the bottom of the stamp. Both have two shading lines.

Washington – 1¢ Green. The Bureau of Engraving and Printing used the 10 gauge perforations on flat plate stamp sheets even after the successful introduction of 11 gauge perfs. The 10 gauge roller wore out and could not be replaced because of shortages resulting from World War I. This stamp is perforated 11 and printed on unwatermarked paper. The stamp was part of the Washington-Franklin “Flat-Elevens” of 1917.

Washington – 2¢ Rose. Type I. The “2 Cents 2” stamps replaced the “Two Cents” stamp. The Series of 1916-22 2¢ Washington Type I stamps have some distinguishing features: a pronounced white line can be found under Washington’s ear, and the bottom two strands of hair behind his ear are shorter than the ones above it.

Washington – 3¢ Violet. Type I. In 1917, the domestic first-class rate was increased to 3¢. Before this time, there was no specific purpose for this stamp.

Franklin – 10¢ Orange. As with several denominations in the Series of 1916-22, the 10¢ Franklin was issued in greater quantities than all previous stamps of that denomination. Stamps were in high demand because of World War I. This stamp paid the domestic registered mail rate.

Washington – 2¢ Carmine. This stamp was part of the last series to be produced by flat plate printing. It wasn’t long before this method was replaced by rotary press printing.

Franklin – 1¢ Green. This stamp remained in production for 14 years. Due to its long life, this stamp can be found in a wide range of shades from bright yellowish green to deep blue green.

Harding – 1½¢ Deep brown. A rate increase for third-class mail made a new stamp necessary. The 1½¢ Harding stamp was the first fractional-cent stamp in US history. The engraving on the plates of the black 2¢ Harding stamps was changed slightly, then used to produce this stamp.

Washington – 2¢ Carmine. Type I. A bit of controversy came up with the issue of this stamp. It wasn’t to be officially issued until January 15, 1923, but some post offices received them as early as January 6. Despite strict instructions not to release the stamps until the intended date, some post offices mistakenly released them early. The earliest known use of this stamp was January 10, 1923.

1901-1923



Fast Express



Franklin



Washington



Washington



Franklin



Washington



Washington



Washington



Washington



Washington (III)



Washington



Washington (I)



Washington (I)



Franklin



Washington



Franklin



Harding



Washington (I)

1924-1930

Lincoln – 3¢ Deep violet. The design for this stamp is based on a photograph of President Lincoln taken by famed Civil War-era photographer Mathew Brady. The coil stamp is part of the Series of 1923-26.

T. Roosevelt – 5¢ Dark blue. This stamp was printed on a rotary press in 1924. It had previously been produced on flat plate presses. It pictures Theodore Roosevelt, hero of the Spanish-American War and 26th US president.

Harding – 2¢ Black. This memorial stamp was issued for a limited time. Demand for the stamp forced the Bureau of Engraving and Printing to supplement the initial flat plate printing with a new rotary press version. This was the first commemorative or memorial stamp issued using two printing methods.

Franklin – 1¢ Green. The image of the first postmaster general was based on a bust by French artist Jean-Jacques Caffieri. The portrait was used on at least eight other US stamps.

Harding – 1½¢ Yellow brown. Sheets printed on the rotary press with 11-gauge perforations tended to separate prematurely. However, when the perfs were changed to 10, they were hard to separate. Perforations finally settled at 10½-gauge.

Washington – 2¢ Carmine. Type I. Revolutionary War hero and first president, George Washington is pictured on this 2¢ stamp. It was the “workhorse” for the Fourth Bureau Issue because it paid the first-class letter rate.

Lincoln – 3¢ Violet. Abraham Lincoln was president during the Civil War. Three years before the war, he warned, “A house divided against itself cannot stand.”

M. Washington – 4¢ Yellow brown. As America’s first first lady, Martha Washington set the example for future presidents’ wives to follow. She was first pictured on a stamp in 1902.

Garfield – 6¢ Red orange. After winning the election for president, Garfield was a sitting representative, senator-elect, and president-elect at the same time.

McKinley – 7¢ Black. This stamp is the second to feature the 25th president. The design is based on a photo taken by George Rockwood, and it became the official portrait used by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing.

Grant – 8¢ Olive green. The image of Grant was inspired by a photo taken by famed Civil War-era photographer Mathew Brady. Grant was the Union general who accepted the surrender of Confederate General Robert E. Lee.

Jefferson – 9¢ Orange red. Jefferson wrote the Declaration of Independence in 1776. While serving as the third US president, he bought the Louisiana Territory from France, which doubled the size of the United States.

Monroe – 10¢ Orange. This stamp was one of the first to use the 11 X 10½ perforations. The stamp design was originally used on the 3¢ issue from 1904. This 10¢ stamp paid the registry and special delivery rates.

Nathan Hale – 1/2¢ Olive brown. The flat plate version of this stamp was in high demand from bulk mailers wishing to make their packages more distinct. They began using two stamps instead of one, and the decision was made to reprint this stamp on the less-expensive rotary press.

Thomas Edison’s Electric Light – 2¢ Carmine rose. Because of popular demand for the previous stamp, this new printing was made by rotary press.

Harding – 1½¢ Brown. This design replaced the earlier Harding stamp and was said to be more flattering than the earlier profile view. Additionally, the frame was changed to match the rest of the Series of 1922-35.

1924-1930



Lincoln



T. Roosevelt



PERF. 11

Harding



PERF. 11 x 10½

Franklin



PERF. 11 x 10½

Harding



PERF. 11 x 10½

Washington (I)



PERF. 11 x 10½

Lincoln



PERF. 11 x 10½

M. Washington



PERF. 11 x 10½

Garfield



PERF. 11 x 10½

McKinley



PERF. 11 x 10½

Grant



PERF. 11 x 10½

Jefferson



PERF. 11 x 10½

Monroe



Hale



PERF. 11 x 10½

Edison's First Lamp



Harding

❧ 1931-1935 ❧

Statue of Liberty – 15¢ Grey. Issued during the Great Depression, this high-value stamp was one of the first to be printed on rotary press. This dropped the cost of printing from 11.7¢ per thousand stamps to 6.7¢ – an important factor during the ongoing nationwide financial crisis.

Golden Gate – 20¢ Like the earlier 1923 Golden Gate stamp, this one pictures the *W.F. Babcock* sailing into the Golden Gate, as taken from a painting by W.A. Coulter.

Washington by Gilbert Stuart – 2¢ Carmine rose. A likeness of our first president by Gilbert Stuart, taken from a painting made at Germantown, Pennsylvania, in 1796.

Xth Olympiad – 3¢ Violet. Marks the opening of the second Olympic Games held in the United States. It was the tenth Olympiad, and it took place in Los Angeles, California.

Washington – 3¢ Deep violet. Issued in response to a rate increase. The design is the same as the 2¢ stamp from the Washington Bicentennial commemoratives. The image was inspired by a portrait of Washington by Gilbert Stuart.

Washington – 3¢ Deep violet. This stamp features the same design as the previous one, but was printed in horizontal coils and perforated 10.

Restoration of Fort Dearborn – 1¢ Yellow green. This is one of two issues commemorating a century of progress and was issued in conjunction with the Chicago Century of Progress Exposition. This issue shows restoration of Fort Dearborn, which was the original outpost of Chicago.

National Recovery Act – 3¢ Violet. This stamp

was issued to arouse support for the National Recovery Act, one of Franklin Roosevelt's first acts after he became president. It was a direct result of the general business decline in the United States beginning in 1929. The act provided for the expenditure of great sums of public money to carry out a recovery program. It was eventually declared unconstitutional by the Supreme Court.

General T. Kosciuszko – 5¢ Blue. Honors General Thaddeus Kosciuszko on the 150th anniversary of his naturalization as an American citizen. Kosciuszko was a captain in the Polish army. During the Revolutionary War, he offered his services to the American army. He was appointed chief engineer in charge of construction at West Point and became an assistant to General Washington. American citizenship was bestowed upon him as a reward for his services.

Mothers of America – 3¢ Deep violet. Issued for use on Mother's Day mail in tribute to the Mothers of America, and illustrates a reproduction of James A. Whistler's painting *Portrait of My Mother*. Two perforated varieties of this stamp were produced, each on a different press. One is a perf. 11 x 10½ rotary stamp, the other a perf. 11 flat plate stamp.

Connecticut Tercentenary – 3¢ Red violet. Honors 300th anniversary of settlement. Pictured is "Charter Oak," where the colony's charter was hidden from English troops sent to revoke it.

Boulder Dam – 3¢ Purple. Built on the Colorado River between 1931 and 1936, Boulder Dam is one of the world's major hydroelectric dams. The 726-foot-high, 379-foot-long structure can generate 1,345 megawatts of hydroelectricity.

1931-1935



Statue of Liberty



Golden Gate



By Gilbert Stuart, 1796



Runner



Washington



Washington



Restoration of Fort Dearborn



Group of Workers



Gen. T. Kosciuszko



ROTARY, PERF. 11 x 10½

Whistler's Mother



FLAT PLATE, PERF. 11

Whistler's Mother

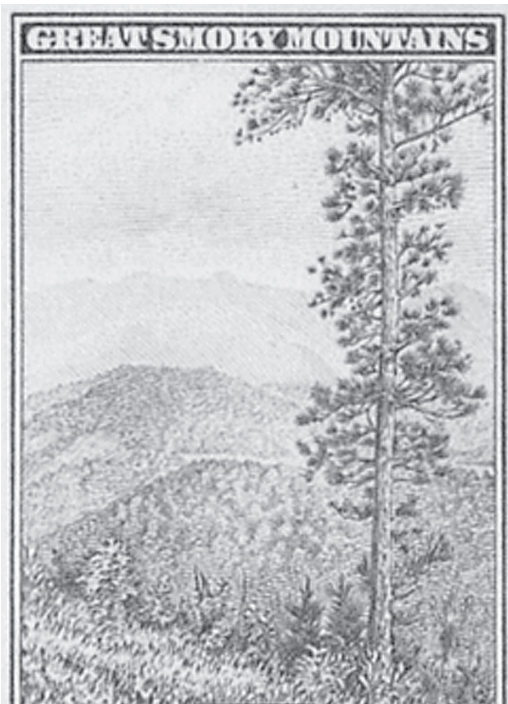


Connecticut Tercentenary



Boulder Dam

1937

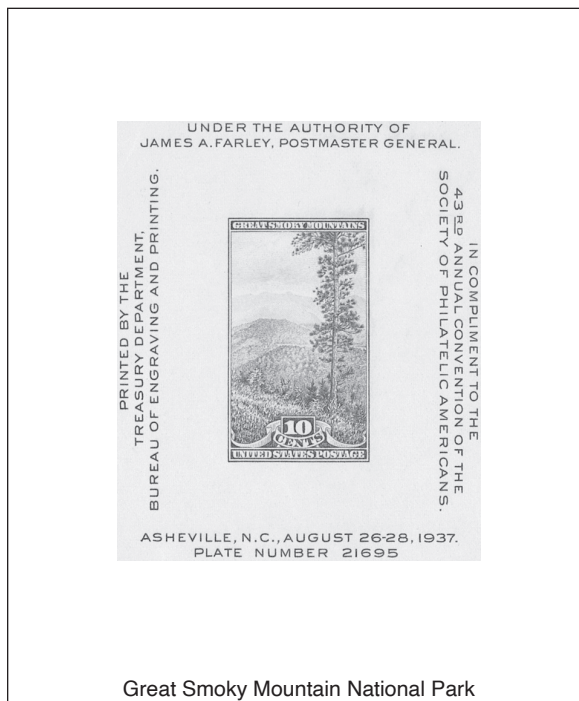


Great Smoky Mountains National Park – On August 26, 1937, the Postal Department issued a souvenir sheet in honor of the Society of the Philatelic Americans' 43rd convention, held that year in Asheville, North Carolina. The sheet contained a single stamp, the 1934 10¢ National Parks issue, which depicted a view of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park in North Carolina.

The Great Smoky Mountains, so named because they are usually covered by a smoky mist, are among the highest and most-rugged mountains in the Appalachian chain. Their slopes, which are covered with hardwood and evergreen forests, provide valuable lumber. Minerals such as clay, copper, and gold are mined here.

In 1930, the federal government set aside most of the mountain area to be used as a National Park; lumbering and mining are not allowed in the park itself. Since the mountains form a natural boundary between Tennessee and North Carolina, the park is equally split between the two states. Within the park, there are sixteen peaks over 6,000 feet high. The highest of these peaks is Clingman's Dome, located in Tennessee. With its sparkling streams and wooded mountain scenery, this area is a popular resort.

1937



1938-1939

An avid stamp collector, Franklin D. Roosevelt was instrumental in starting new stamp programs throughout his twelve years as president. During his second term, Roosevelt suggested a new series featuring America's former presidents – from Washington to Coolidge. Roosevelt hoped the stamps would make US citizens more aware of the great men who had served their country. Also included in the series were Benjamin Franklin, Martha Washington, and the White House.

Benjamin Franklin – 1/2¢ Deep orange. Benjamin Franklin was the only person to sign all four key documents in American history: the Declaration of Independence, the Treaty of Alliance with France, the Treaty of Peace with Great Britain, and the Constitution of the United States.

George Washington – 1¢ Green. Following the Revolutionary War, Washington retired to his Virginia plantation, Mount Vernon. By 1757, he had acquired over 4,000 acres of land. His farming methods, such as crop rotation, grafting fruit trees, and preventing soil erosion, were way ahead of their time.

Martha Washington – 1½¢ Bister brown. During the Revolutionary War, Martha Washington joined her husband at the Valley Forge encampment in Pennsylvania. There, she organized a women's sewing circle that mended clothes for the troops. She later moved on with Washington to his wartime camp in Morristown, New Jersey, and continued her services there.

John Adams – 2¢ Rose carmine. The first vice president, John Adams, went on to become our second president. During his term, the capital moved from Philadelphia to Washington, DC. He and Mrs. Adams were the first to live in the White House, which was only partially complete when they moved in.

Thomas Jefferson – 3¢ Deep violet. Although Thomas Jefferson is best known for writing the Declaration of Independence, he was also instrumental in establishing the Bill of Rights. Upon seeing the first draft of the Constitution, he objected to the lack of a bill of rights and wrote to James Madison, urging one. As a result, Madison introduced the first ten amendments to the Constitution – The Bill of Rights.

James Monroe – 5¢ Bright blue. James Monroe is the only president who ran unopposed. He's best remembered for his Monroe Doctrine of 1823, which stated, "The American continents...are not to be considered...for future colonization by any European powers." This bold statement has become a cornerstone of American foreign policy.

John Quincy Adams – 6¢ Red orange. The first son of a chief executive to become president, John Quincy

Adams served his country in many ways. As secretary of State, he helped develop the Monroe Doctrine. As an American diplomat, he negotiated the Treaty of Ghent, which brought an end to the War of 1812.

Andrew Jackson – 7¢ Sepia. A champion of the common man, Andrew Jackson's slogan was, "Let the people rule." Believing the president should use his constitutional power to the fullest, he vetoed more bills than all previous presidents put together.

James Polk – 11¢ Ultramarine. James Polk was president during the "Fabulous Forties," an era of prosperity and growth for America. A successful chief executive, he carried out every item on his political agenda, guided our country through the Mexican War, and greatly expanded US territories. During his administration, gold was discovered in California, the Oregon Trail was begun, and America was introduced to its first postage stamp.

Zachary Taylor – 12¢ Bright violet. After serving his country for 40 years as a soldier, Zachary Taylor went on to become president. His decision to admit California and New Mexico as free states nearly caused the Civil War to erupt. Although he had many slaves, he didn't sympathize with the Southern cause and was ready to use force to put down their attempts to secede.

James Buchanan – 15¢ Blue gray. James Buchanan was the only president who never married. Buchanan's niece, Harriet Lane, assumed the duties of the first lady. When the prince of Wales (later King Edward VII) came to visit, several spectacular receptions and balls were held in his honor. During the royal stay, President Buchanan slept in the hallway – to provide his guests with suitable rooms.

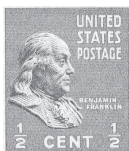
William McKinley – 25¢ Deep red lilac. When the Civil War broke out, William McKinley was the first man in his hometown of Niles, Ohio, to volunteer for the Union Army. As president, he guided the US on a path toward world leadership. Businesses flourished at home and abroad, and high tariffs protected American industries from foreign competition.

Washington – 1¢ Green. Part of the beloved series affectionately referred to as the "Prexies" by stamp collectors. The 1938 Presidential series is a favorite among philatelists.

Jefferson – 3¢ Purple. In 1939, the 1¢ to 10¢ stamps from the 1938 Presidential Series were re-issued as coil stamps with 10 gauge perforations.

Tower of the Sun – 3¢ Bright purple. This stamp was issued in conjunction with the Golden Gate International Exposition. The Exposition celebrated progress in the West and the Pacific Basin.

1938-1939



Franklin



Washington



M. Washington



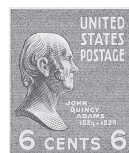
J. Adams



Jefferson



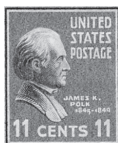
Monroe



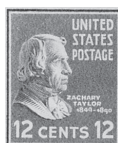
J.Q. Adams



Jackson



Polk



Taylor



Buchanan



McKinley



Washington



Jefferson



Tower of the Sun

❧ ❧ 1940-1944

Statue of Liberty – 1¢ Bright blue green. The first in a 3-stamp series issued to raise consciousness of the need for a strong national defense. The Statue of Liberty was built on top of a fort built to defend New York against naval attacks.

Anti-Aircraft Gun – 2¢ Rose carmine. The second stamp in the National Defense Series, the design of this issue was based on a pencil sketch by President Franklin Roosevelt.

Torch of Enlightenment – 3¢ Bright violet. The last of the National Defense Series, the “torch of enlightenment” was also based on a drawing by President Roosevelt.

Vermont Statehood – 3¢ Light violet. First explored by Champlain in 1609, Vermont joined the Union in 1791, becoming its 14th state.

Kentucky Statehood – 3¢ Violet. Based on a mural by T. Gilbert White, this stamp depicts Daniel Boone and his fellow explorers looking across the Kentucky River to present-day Frankfort.

Win the War – 3¢ Violet. Issued on the anniversary of American independence, the “Win

the War” stamp was intended to bolster American support of the war effort.

Chinese Resistance – 5¢ Bright blue. Issued to commemorate the 5th anniversary of the resistance of the Chinese people to Japanese aggression. A tribute to China’s effort to preserve free government principles for its people.

Allied Nations – 2¢ Rose carmine. Like the “Win the War” commemorative, this stamp was issued as a form of propaganda to try to raise support for US involvement in World War II.

Telegraph Wires – 3¢ Bright red violet. After receiving his patent in 1840, telegraph inventor Samuel Morse made the first official telegraph transmission on May 24, 1844. That day, Morse sat in the Supreme Court chamber of the Capitol and tapped out the message, “What hath God wrought!”

View of Corregidor – 3¢ Deep violet. Called the “Gibraltar of the Pacific,” Corregidor was the site of a World War II standoff between US and Philippine troops and Japanese forces. Today, the entire island is a national shrine to the soldiers who died in its defense.

1940-1944



Statue of Liberty



Anti-Aircraft Gun



Torch of Enlightenment



Vermont Statehood



Kentucky Statehood



Win the War



Chinese Resistance



Allied Nations



Telegraph Wires



View of Corregidor

1945

Florida Centennial – 3¢ Bright red violet. Issued to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Florida statehood. The stamp pictures the state seal, the Gates of St. Augustine, and capitol at Tallahassee.

United Nations Conference – 5¢ Ultramarine. Established on October 24, 1945, the United Nations was formed to “maintain world peace and foster international cooperation.”

Marines – 3¢ Yellow green. When this stamp was first proposed, some people protested because it would picture living people – a violation of postal regulations. However, once it was issued, it became the most popular US commemorative at that time.

Roosevelt and Hyde Park – 1¢ Blue green. Franklin Roosevelt was born in Hyde Park, NY, on January 20, 1882. He lived at Hyde Park until enrolling in preparatory school at the age of 14.

Roosevelt and “Little White House” – 2¢ Carmine. As therapy following an attack of polio, Franklin Roosevelt swam in the warm mineral

pools of Warm Springs, Georgia. In an effort to help polio victims afford treatment, Roosevelt bought the land surrounding the springs and established The Warm Springs Foundation.

US Army – 3¢ Olive. This stamp was issued to recognize the achievements of the US Army during World War II.

US Coast Guard – 3¢ Bright blue green. During World War II, the US Coast Guard served as a specialized branch of the US Navy. It was responsible for stowing dangerous cargo, protecting ships and ports, and establishing beach-landing methods.

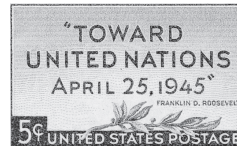
Alfred E. Smith – 3¢ Purple. Although he worked as a checker in a fish market and wanted to perform on stage, he went on to become governor of New York State. This stamp was issued in his honor.

Texas Statehood – 3¢ Dark blue. After winning a fierce war of independence with Mexico, Texas was given independence and granted statehood in 1845.

1945



Florida Centennial



United Nations Conference



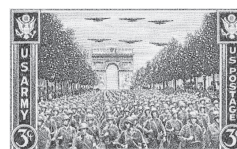
Marines



Roosevelt and Hyde Park



Roosevelt and "Little White House"



US Army



US Coast Guard



Alfred E. Smith



Texas Statehood

1946-1947

Merchant Marine – 3¢ Blue green. The Merchant Marine is a fleet made up of a nation’s cargo and passenger ships. Today, the United States has the sixth-largest Merchant Marine in the world.

Tennessee Statehood – 3¢ Dark violet. “The Volunteer State” was ceded to the Thirteen Colonies by France in 1763. In 1796, Tennessee was admitted as the 16th state of the Union, with John Sevier as its first governor.

Smithsonian Institution – 3¢ Violet brown. In 1829, British scientist James Smithson left his fortune to the United States to found an institution that would add to the knowledge available to all. On the basis of that foundation, the US Congress established the Smithsonian Institution in 1846.

Thomas A. Edison – 3¢ Bright red violet. Born in 1847, Thomas Alva Edison invented the incandescent lamp and the phonograph. He produced over 1,000 inventions in his lifetime.

Postage Stamp Centenary – 3¢ Deep blue. The faces of George Washington and Benjamin Franklin graced the first US postage stamps. Mail

transportation in the hundred years after that progressed from men on horseback to modern rail, ship, and airplane.

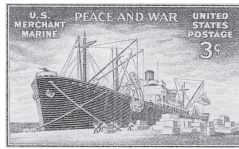
Doctors – 3¢ Brown violet. The dedication and concern of physicians is illustrated in the painting *The Doctor*, by Sir Luke Fildes.

Utah Centennial – 3¢ Dark violet. In 1847, members of a religious sect called Mormons, migrated to the Salt Lake Valley in search of religious freedom. The pioneers came to the territory in covered wagons and handcarts.

US Frigate *Constitution* – 3¢ Blue green. The popular nickname of this frigate is “Old Ironsides”. With a hull of oak and masts of white pine, the ship withstood assaults from the British in the War of 1812.

Everglades National Park – 3¢ Bright green. Everglades National Park in southern Florida was dedicated on December 6, 1947. It is the largest subtropical wilderness in the US, covering 1.4 million acres.

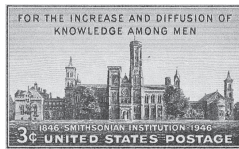
1946-1947



Merchant Marine



Tennessee Statehood



Smithsonian Institution



Thomas A. Edison



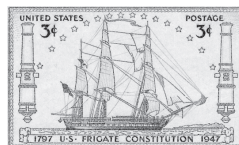
Postage Stamp Centenary



Doctors



Utah Centennial



US Frigate *Constitution*



Everglades National Park

1948-1949

California Gold Centennial – 3¢ Dark violet. The discovery of gold at John Sutter's mill in 1848 started a rush of thousands of people to the California gold fields.

Fort Kearny – 3¢ Violet. Pioneers heading westward followed the Oregon Trail through Nebraska. Fort Kearny was built to protect these early travelers.

Volunteer Firemen – 3¢ Bright rose carmine. The first volunteer fire company in America was organized by Peter Stuyvesant, dictatorial governor of the Dutch colony of New Netherlands (now New York).

Indian Centennial – 3¢ Dark brown. The Five Civilized Tribes had adopted many of the customs of

white people through the years. They were resettled in Oklahoma after several previous relocations.

Rough Riders – 3¢ Violet brown. The First US Volunteer Cavalry Regiment was nicknamed the "Rough Riders". It was commanded by Colonel Leonard Wood and Lieutenant Colonel Theodore Roosevelt during the Spanish-American War (1898).

Gettysburg Address – 3¢ Bright blue. On the site of one of the Civil War's fiercest battles, President Abraham Lincoln reaffirmed the principles that define and unite the country.

Minnesota Territory – 3¢ Blue green. The Red River ran through the Minnesota Territory. Settlers moving westward into the region often carried their household goods on ox-drawn carts.

1948-1949



California Gold Centennial



Fort Kearny



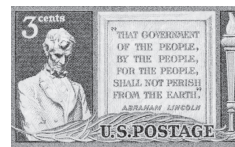
Volunteer Firemen



Indian Centennial



Rough Riders



Gettysburg Address



Minnesota Territory

1949-1950

Puerto Rico Election – 3¢ Green. This stamp was issued to commemorate the election of Luis Muñoz Marín as the first governor of Puerto Rico, in 1948.

Edgar Allan Poe – 3¢ Bright red violet. Born in Boston, Massachusetts, in 1809, Edgar Allan Poe became famous for his tales of the macabre, such as “The Fall of the House of Usher” and “The Pit and the Pendulum.”

Samuel Gompers – 3¢ Bright red violet. Commemorates the 100th anniversary of the birth of the famous labor leader and founder of the American Federation of Labor (AFL).

Statue of Freedom – 3¢ Bright blue. On December 12, 1863, the Statue of Freedom was placed on top of the dome of the Capitol Building. It stands 19 feet, six inches high and weighs about 15,000 pounds.

Executive Mansion – 3¢ Deep green. Completed in 1801, the 132-room White House was designed

by Irish architect James Hoban.

Railroad Engineers of America – 3¢ Violet brown. Honors the railroad engineers of America and portrays John Luther “Casey” Jones, who was killed in a train wreck near Vaughn, Mississippi.

Kansas City, Missouri Centenary – 3¢ Violet. Located on the site of the first permanent settlement, the Town of Kansas was given a charter in 1850. Three years later, the community was incorporated and renamed Kansas City.

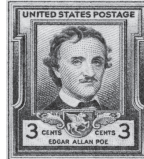
Boy Scouts – 3¢ Sepia. This stamp was issued in honor of the Boy Scouts of America, on the occasion of the second National Jamboree at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania.

Indiana Territory – 3¢ Bright blue. In 1800, Congress created the Indiana Territory, incorporating present-day Indiana, Illinois, and Wisconsin, and parts of Michigan and Minnesota. In 1809, Illinois was made a separate territory.

1949-1950



Puerto Rico Election



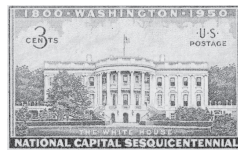
Edgar Allan Poe



Samuel Gompers



Statue of Freedom



White House



Railroad Engineers of America



Kansas City, Missouri, Centennial



Boy Scouts



Indiana Territory

1951-1954

Nevada Centennial – 3¢ Light olive green. Illustrating Carson Valley, Nevada, this issue celebrates the 100th anniversary of the first settlement in the state.

Landing of Cadillac – 3¢ Blue. In 1701, Antoine de la Mothe Cadillac landed at present-day Detroit. Cadillac founded the first settlement as a fur-trading outpost.

Colorado Statehood – 3¢ Blue violet. Acquired as part of the Louisiana Purchase, Colorado joined the Union in 1876, becoming the 38th state.

Battle of Brooklyn – 3¢ Violet. This issue recalls the Battle of Brooklyn and commemorates its 175th anniversary. It shows George Washington evacuating his troops at the site of the Fulton Ferry House.

Betsy Ross – 3¢ Carmine rose. The design for the first American flag was adopted by Congress in 1877. The sewing of the flag, supervised by George Washington and others, is credited to Betsy Ross of Philadelphia.

4-H Club – 3¢ Blue green. The 4-H Club movement was sponsored by the US Department

of Agriculture. The club teaches rural youngsters modern farming methods.

B&O Railroad – 3¢ Bright blue. The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad was the first passenger railway in the United States. Construction began on July 4, 1828.

American Automobile Association – 3¢ Deep blue. The association has worked for highway safety and accident prevention. It created the school patrol system and high school student driver training courses.

NATO – 3¢ Deep violet. The North Atlantic Treaty Organization was a defensive alliance composed of eleven Western European nations plus Turkey, Canada, and the United States.

Opening of Japan Centennial – 5¢ Green. Commodore Matthew Perry negotiated with Japan to open its doors to foreign trade after more than two hundred years of isolation.

Columbia University – 3¢ Blue. Founded as King's College in 1754, Columbia University is the oldest institution of higher learning in New York State and the fifth oldest in the United States.

1951-1954



Nevada Centennial



Landing of Cadillac



Colorado Statehood



Battle of Brooklyn



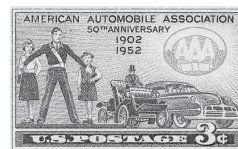
Betsy Ross



4-H Club



B&O Railroad



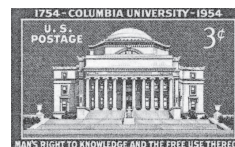
American Automobile Association



NATO



Opening of Japan Centennial



Columbia University

1954-1960

*"Give me your tired, your poor,
Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,
The wretched refuse of your teeming shore,
Send these, the homeless tempest-tossed, to me;
I lift my lamp beside the golden door..."*

– Emma Lazarus

So reads the inscription at the base of the Statue of Liberty. These words have given hope to thousands of immigrants who came to America seeking a better life. It seems only fitting that the statue that has become a symbol of our independence should introduce the Liberty Series.

Issued to replace the 1938 Presidential Series, this patriotic set of stamps honors guardians of freedom throughout US history. Eighteenth-century America is represented by Revolutionary War heroes and statesmen such as Washington, Jefferson, Franklin, Hamilton, Henry, Jay, and Revere.

Leaders of the 19th century, including Monroe, Lincoln, Lee, Harrison, and Susan B. Anthony make an appearance. The 20th century is represented by Teddy Roosevelt, Woodrow Wilson, and General Pershing.

The Liberty Series also features famous locations important to America's democratic history, such as Bunker Hill, Independence Hall, and the Alamo.

Thomas Jefferson – 2¢ Red rose. Founding father Thomas Jefferson wrote the Declaration of Independence, was governor of Virginia, minister to France, secretary of State, vice president, and third US president.

Statue of Liberty – 3¢ Deep violet. The full name of the statue is *Liberty Enlightening the World*. The broken chain of tyranny lies at her feet. The sculpture was formed from copper shaped by hammering it inside molds, a technique called *repousse*.

Abraham Lincoln – 4¢ Red violet. The sixteenth president of the US, Lincoln directly affected the liberty of thousands by declaring freedom for slaves in the Emancipation Proclamation of 1863.

Independence Hall – 10¢ Rose lake. One of our nation's most historic buildings, Independence Hall

was where the second Continental Congress met in 1775 and chose George Washington as commander-in-chief of the Continental Army. Later, it was the birthplace of the Declaration of Independence and the US Constitution. When the Declaration of Independence was signed the Liberty Bell, which originally hung in the Hall tower, proclaimed America's freedom.

George Washington – 1¢ Dark green. When Washington became president, there were only 11 states in the Union. Fewer than 4,000,000 people lived in America. To travel from New York City to Philadelphia (about 90 miles) it took 3 days, longer than it currently takes to fly around the world. When Washington left office, five more states had been admitted to the Union.

Palace of the Governors – 1¼¢ Turquoise. The Palace of the Governors is the oldest US Government building. This ancient adobe structure was built in 1610 by the Spaniards when the capital of New Mexico moved from San Juan de Los Caballeros to Santa Fe. Today, the building houses a historical museum.

Thomas Jefferson – 2¢ Carmine rose. In addition to being the author of the Declaration of Independence and our country's third president, Thomas Jefferson found time to pursue other interests. His *Manual of Parliamentary Practice* is still in use today. He also prepared a dictionary of Indian languages and played the violin in chamber concerts.

Statue of Liberty – 3¢ Deep violet. Although he is best remembered for designing the Eiffel Tower, Alexandre-Gustave Eiffel was also responsible for creating the framework inside the Statue of Liberty. This framework was then covered by copper sheets, which were hammered into shape by hand.

Abraham Lincoln – 4¢ Red violet. Even as a boy, Abraham Lincoln showed great ability as a speaker. He would often entertain others by imitating a traveling preacher or politician who had spoken in town. His gift for storytelling would draw crowds from miles around.

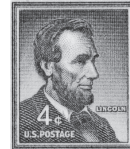
1954-1960



Jefferson



Statue of Liberty



Lincoln



Independence Hall



G. Washington



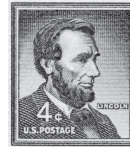
Palace of Governors



Jefferson



Statue of Liberty



Lincoln

1954-1955

Nebraska Territory – 3¢ Violet. This stamp celebrates the 100th anniversary of the establishment of the Nebraska Territory. It shows “The Sower” in the foreground and Mitchell Pass and Scotts Bluff in the back.

Land Grant Colleges – 3¢ Green. Land grant colleges, like Michigan State and Pennsylvania State, were built on land donated by the federal government.

Armed Forces Reserve – 3¢ Purple. This stamp was issued to honor the brave men and women who stand ready to assist the full-time servicemen when needed.

Soo Locks – 3¢ Blue. In 1855, the Soo Locks opened, creating a convenient shipping route

between Lake Superior and the other Great Lakes.

Atoms for Peace – 3¢ Deep blue. In 1953, President Eisenhower founded the Atoms for Peace program, in an attempt to find peaceful uses for nuclear energy.

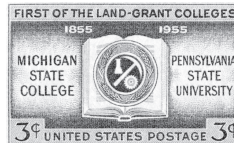
Fort Ticonderoga – 3¢ Light brown. This stamp was released to commemorate the 200th anniversary of Fort Ticonderoga, which played a vital role in the Revolutionary War due to its strategic location.

Andrew W. Mellon – 3¢ Rose carmine. In commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the birth of Andrew W. Mellon, financier and art collector, who also served as US secretary of the Treasury from 1921-32.

1954-1955



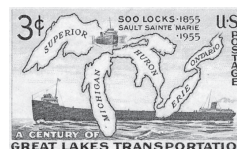
Nebraska Territory



Land Grant Colleges



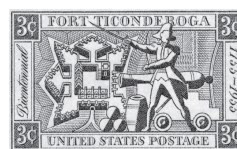
Armed Forces Reserve



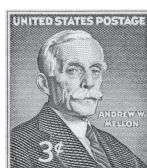
Soo Locks



Atoms For Peace



Fort Ticonderoga



Andrew W. Mellon

1956

Benjamin Franklin – 3¢ Bright carmine. Statesman, author, and scientist, Benjamin Franklin served as the first postmaster general of the colonies.

Booker T. Washington – 3¢ Deep blue. A slave during his childhood, Booker T. Washington went on to become president of Tuskegee Institute.

FIPEX – 3¢ Deep violet. The Fifth International Philatelic Exhibition was held in New York City, April 28 to May 6, 1956.

Wildlife Conservation – 3¢ Rose lake. Emphasizes the importance of wildlife conservation by depicting a wild turkey, which today has been restored to its original habitat, thanks to Federal and State government conservation work.

Wildlife Conservation – 3¢ Brown. Second in a series, this stamp illustrates the pronghorn antelope, which has been protected, studied, and transplanted under scientific guidance; its numbers have increased.

Wildlife Conservation – 3¢ Blue green. Another in the series promoting wildlife conservation, this stamp shows the king salmon, which has been aided in its spawning migration upstream by fish ladders and elevators.

Pure Food and Drug Laws – 3¢ Dark blue green. The Pure Food and Drug Laws provide for proper manufacturing, processing, and handling of food products, drugs, and medical supplies and cosmetics.

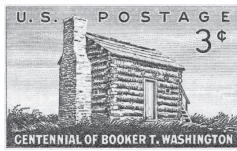
Wheatland – 3¢ Black brown. Located in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, it was at Wheatland that James Buchanan learned of his nomination for president of the United States. Buchanan died at Wheatland in 1868.

Labor Day – 3¢ Deep blue. In honor of Labor Day, this stamp was released with a design from the mosaic mural at the AFL-CIO headquarters in Washington.

1956



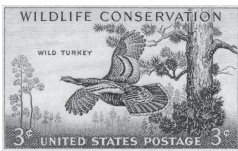
Benjamin Franklin



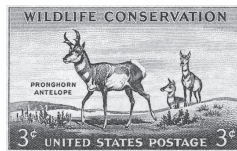
Booker T. Washington



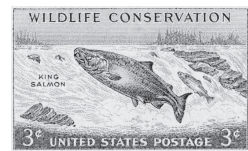
FIPEX



Wildlife Conservation



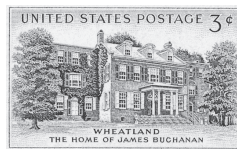
Wildlife Conservation



Wildlife Conservation



Pure Food and Drug Laws



Wheatland



Labor Day

1956-1957

Nassau Hall – 3¢ Black. A special stamp issued to celebrate the 200th anniversary of Nassau Hall, the first building of what is now Princeton University.

Devils Tower – 3¢ Violet. Commemorates the 50th anniversary of the federal law which provided for American natural wonders. Devils Tower National Monument was the first such protected area.

Children of the World – 3¢ Dark blue. Issued to recognize the role children play in promoting world peace, this stamp was actually designed by a schoolboy.

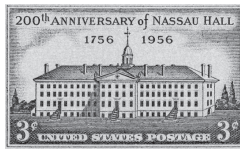
Polio – 3¢ Red lilac. Issued on the tenth anniversary of the March of Dimes, this stamp honors medical professionals like Dr. Jonas Salk, who worked to eradicate polio.

Coast and Geodetic Survey – 3¢ Dark blue. Issued on the 150th anniversary of the Coast and Geodetic Survey, which aids sailors and engineers by making contour maps.

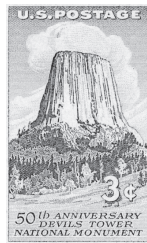
Architects Institute – 3¢ Red lilac. Founded on February 23, 1857, the American Institute of Architects provides a network in which architects can find schools of architecture and other architectural information. The institute also gives awards for excellence in architecture.

Oklahoma Statehood – 3¢ Dark blue. Acquired by the United States as part of the Louisiana Purchase, Oklahoma became Indian Territory during the 1830s. In 1907, it became the 46th state to join the Union.

1956-1957



Nassau Hall



Devils Tower



Children of the World



Polio



Coast and Geodetic Survey



Architects Institute



Oklahoma Statehood

❧ ❧ 1957-1958

School Teachers – 3¢ Rose lake. The National Education Association of the United States was created to improve public education and classroom conditions, and to increase compensation for school employees.

American Flag – 4¢ Dark blue and deep carmine. This stamp was the first issue using the US flag as the central design. It was also the first issue to be printed by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing in its natural colors in one operation – with the new multicolor Giori press.

Shipbuilding – 3¢ Deep violet. Until the late 1700s, Maine’s virgin white pines were used to make ships’ masts. Shipbuilding has been important throughout Maine’s history since that first merchant ship, *Virginia of Sagadahock*, was built at Popham Colony.

Lafayette Bicentenary – 3¢ Rose lake. Marquis de Lafayette volunteered his military services in the War for American Independence. In France, he lobbied for French support of American interests.

Wildlife Conservation – 3¢ Blue, ochre, and

green. The whooping crane symbolized the need for protection on this fourth stamp in the Wildlife Conservation Series. Whoopers began to die out during the 1800s when settlers disturbed their habitats.

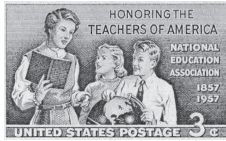
Religious Freedom – 3¢ Black. In 1657, 29 citizens of Flushing and two from Jamaica challenged the anti-Quaker laws of Peter Stuyvesant, governor of New Amsterdam. Their protest defended the principle of religious freedom.

Gardening Horticulture – 3¢ Green. 1958 marked the hundredth anniversary of the birth of Liberty Hyde Bailey, a well-known Cornell University horticulturist. This stamp also honored the Garden Clubs of America.

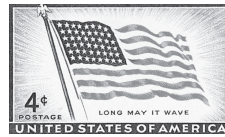
James Monroe – 3¢ Purple. Fifth president of the United States, Monroe is known for his Monroe Doctrine, warning European countries not to interfere in the affairs of Western Hemisphere nations.

Minnesota Statehood – 3¢ Green. Minnesota is often called the “Land of Lakes.” On May 11, 1858, the territory became the 32nd state in the Union.

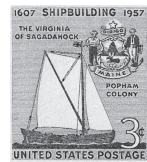
❧ 1957-1958 ❧



School Teachers



American Flag



Shipbuilding



Lafayette Bicentenary



Wildlife Conservation



Religious Freedom



Gardening Horticulture



James Monroe



Minnesota Statehood

1958

Geophysical Year – 3¢ Black and red-orange. Solar eruptions were among many phenomena studied during the 18-month Geophysical Year, part of a continuing effort to understand the nature of the universe.

Mackinac Bridge – 3¢ Bright greenish-blue. The Mackinac Straits Bridge connects the Upper and Lower Michigan peninsulas. The bridge is an engineering marvel that runs for seven miles across the Straits.

Simón Bolívar – 4¢ Olive bister. Bolívar was a Venezuelan statesman who led a revolt by South American colonies against Spain. The stamp is part of the Champions of Liberty Series.

Lincoln Sesquicentennial – 1¢ Green. Four stamps were issued for the Lincoln Sesquicentennial Series. George Peter Alexander Healy's painting from life, *Beardless Lincoln*, is on this first stamp. The painting was completed in 1860, soon after Lincoln's election to the presidency.

Lincoln Sesquicentennial – 3¢ Purple. Part of the Lincoln Sesquicentennial Series, this stamp design is based on a marble sculpture of Lincoln's head by Gutzon Borglum in 1906. The sculpture sits in the rotunda of the Capitol Building in Washington, DC.

Lincoln-Douglas Debates – 4¢ Sepia. Third in the Lincoln Sesquicentennial Series, this issue recalls the 1858 political debates between Abraham Lincoln and Stephen Douglas that made Lincoln a national figure.

Lincoln Sesquicentennial – 4¢ Dark blue. This final issue in the Lincoln Sesquicentennial Series shows a drawing by Fritz Busse of part of the famous statue by Daniel Chester French, which stands in the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, DC.

Lajos Kossuth – 4¢ Green. 8¢ Carmine, ultra, and ochre. This Champion of Liberty Series issue honors Lajos Kossuth, Hungarian patriot, statesman, and writer. He worked for the independence of Hungary from the Austro-Hungarian monarchy.

1958



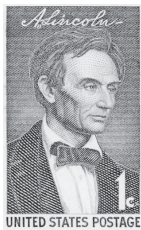
Geophysical Year



Mackinac Bridge



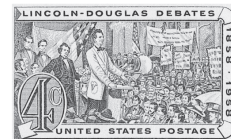
Simón Bolívar



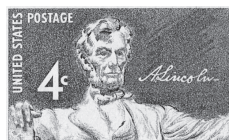
Lincoln Sesquicentennial



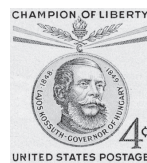
Lincoln Sesquicentennial



Lincoln-Douglas Debates



Lincoln Sesquicentennial



Lajos Kossuth



Lajos Kossuth

1958-1959

Freedom of the Press – 4¢ Black. The first school of journalism in the US was founded in 1908 at the University of Missouri. The First Amendment to the US Constitution guarantees journalists a free press.

Overland Mail – 4¢ Crimson rose. The Butterfield Overland Mail carried the first mail from the eastern US to California. The coach ran between Tipton, Missouri, and San Francisco, California.

Noah Webster – 4¢ Dark carmine rose. Webster compiled the first American dictionary, *American Dictionary of the English Language*. His work helped standardize American pronunciation.

Forest Conservation – 4¢ Green, yellow, and brown. The conservation efforts of President Theodore Roosevelt are recognized on the centennial of his birth. Roosevelt established the US Forest Service, added greatly to the national forests, and set up five new national parks.

Fort Duquesne – 4¢ Blue. British General Forbes took Fort Duquesne from the French in 1758. The fort was renamed Fort Pitt and later became the site of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

José de San Martín – 4¢ Blue. 8¢ Carmine, ultra, and ochre. This Champion of Liberty Series issue honors San Martín, Argentine general and statesman who led the struggle for independence from Spain for Argentina, Chile, and Peru.

NATO – 4¢ Blue. The North Atlantic Treaty Organization was formed after World War II to defend Western Europe against expansion by the USSR.

World Peace Through World Trade – 8¢ Rose lake. The seventeenth Congress of the International Chamber of Commerce met in 1959 to promote international commercial interests, and, by extension, friendly relations among nations.

1958-1959



Freedom of the Press



Overland Mail



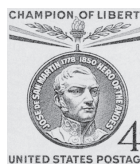
Noah Webster



Forest Conservation



Fort Duquesne



José de San Martín



José de San Martín



NATO



World Peace Through World Trade

1959-1961

49-Star Flag – 4¢ Ochre, dark blue, and deep carmine. A star was added to the US flag July 4, 1959, to recognize the admission of Alaska to the Union early in the year.

Soil Conservation – 4¢ Blue, green, and ochre. Soil conservation measures, like contour plowing and planting cover crops, benefit farmers as well as their urban markets.

Ernst Reuter – 4¢ Gray. This Champion of Liberty Series issue honors Reuter, Lord Mayor of Berlin, who inspired Berliners to withstand the 1948 Soviet blockade of the city that lasted nearly a year.

George Washington – 4¢ Dark violet blue and carmine. This issue bears a quote from Washington's Farewell Address of 1796. The six stamps of the American Credo Series highlighted statements by honored Americans which defined the political character of the nation.

Benjamin Franklin – 4¢ Olive bister and green. Franklin's statement appeared in his *Poor Richard's Almanac*, in 1740. Franklin had a talent for expressing truths in short, easily remembered form.

Thomas Jefferson – 4¢ Gray and vermilion. This statement of Jefferson is from his collected writings and supports his ideal of a republican form of government.

Francis Scott Key – 4¢ Carmine and dark blue. This quote is part of the "Star-Spangled Banner," written by Key during the British bombardment of Fort McHenry, Baltimore, Maryland, in 1814.

Patrick Henry – 4¢ Green and brown. Henry pronounced these words before the Virginia Provincial Convention in Richmond, Virginia, in 1775. His speech opposed the Stamp Tax being forced on the colonists by England. This issue is the last in the American Credo Series.

❧ 1959-1961 ❧



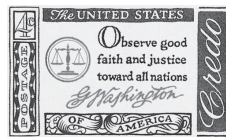
49-Star Flag



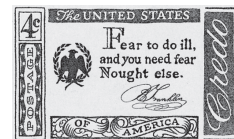
Soil Conservation



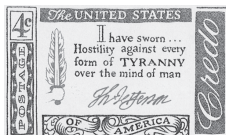
Ernst Reuter



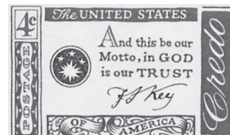
George Washington "American Credo"



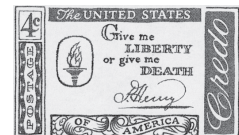
Benjamin Franklin "American Credo"



Thomas Jefferson "American Credo"



Francis Scott Key "American Credo"



Patrick Henry "American Credo"

1960

Boy Scouts Jubilee – 4¢ Red, dark blue, and dark bister. The Boy Scouts of America was founded February 8, 1910, in Washington, DC, by William D. Boyce and others. Robert Baden-Powell had started the Scout Movement in England in 1907.

Olympic Winter Games – 4¢ Dull blue. Squaw Valley, California, was the site of the eighth Olympic Winter Games, held February 18-29, 1960.

Thomas G. Masaryk – 4¢ Blue. This Champion of Liberty Series issue honors Masaryk (1850-1937), patriot and first president of Czechoslovakia.

World Refugee Year – 4¢ Gray black. A family heading from darkness toward a bright doorway symbolizes escape from oppression into a new life. The UN proclaimed International Refugee Year from July 1, 1959, until June 30, 1960.

Water Conservation – 4¢ Dark blue, brown-orange, and green. The seventh Watershed Congress met in 1960. The stamp design illustrates the interdependence

between water sources and water uses.

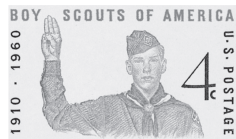
SEATO – 4¢ Blue. The Southeast Asia Treaty Organization was formed in 1954 by US Secretary of State John Foster Dulles, to preserve peace and freedom in Southeast Asia.

American Women – 4¢ Deep violet. This stamp pays tribute to American women and their accomplishments in the home and in the world at large.

50-Star Flag – 4¢ Dark blue and red. The fiftieth star on the flag represents Hawaii, admitted to the Union on August 21, 1959.

Pony Express Centennial – 4¢ Sepia. The Pony Express used relays of men and horses to deliver mail between St. Joseph, Missouri, and Sacramento, California, in less than half the time required by other delivery methods. The Express operated for a year and a half – until the opening of the transcontinental telegraph made it unnecessary.

1960



Boy Scouts Jubilee



Olympic Winter Games



Thomas G. Masaryk



World Refugee Year



Water Conservation



SEATO



American Women



50-Star Flag



Pony Express Centennial

1960

Employ the Handicapped – 4¢ Dark blue. This issue helped publicize the Eighth World Congress of the International Society for the Welfare of Cripples, and promoted hiring the physically handicapped.

World Forestry Congress – 4¢ Green. The motto of the Fifth World Forestry Congress was “Multiple Use of Forest Lands.”

Mexican Independence – 4¢ Green and rose red. On September 15, 1810, Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla gave a speech known as *Grito de Dolores* (Cry of Dolores). This speech sparked Mexico’s struggle for independence from Spain.

US-Japan Treaty – 4¢ Blue and pink. This stamp was issued to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the first treaty to promote understanding and good will between the US and Japan.

Ignacy Jan Paderewski – 4¢ Blue. 8¢ Carmine, ultra, and ochre. These two issues from the Champion

of Liberty Series honor Ignacy J. Paderewski, world-famous Polish patriot and musician.

Robert A. Taft – 4¢ Dull violet. The son of President William Howard Taft, Robert A. Taft was such an important leader of his political party, he became known as “Mr. Republican.”

Wheels of Freedom – 4¢ Dark blue. This stamp honors the automotive industry and was issued in conjunction with the opening of the National Automobile Show in Detroit, Michigan.

Boys’ Clubs of America – 4¢ Indigo, slate, and rose red. First founded in New England in the 1860s, The Boys’ Clubs of America was designed to give youngsters skills that would help them become successful, responsible citizens.

First Automated Post Office in the USA – 4¢ Dark blue and carmine. This issue honors the first automated post office, which was formally dedicated in Providence, Rhode Island, on October 20, 1960.

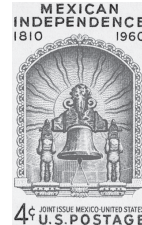
1960



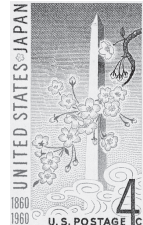
Employ the Handicapped



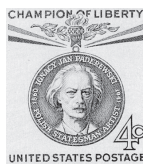
World Forestry Congress



Mexican Independence



US-Japan Treaty



Ignacy J. Paderewski



Ignacy J. Paderewski



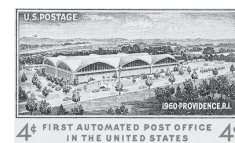
Robert A. Taft



Wheels of Freedom



Boys' Clubs of America



First Automated Post Office in the USA

1960-1961

Baron Gustaf Mannerheim – 8¢ Carmine, ultramarine, and ochre. Eighth in the Champion of Liberty Series, these issues honor the soldier, statesman and strategist Baron Gustaf Mannerheim, marshal and president of Finland.

Camp Fire Girls – 4¢ Dark blue and dark red. In 1910, Luther Halsey Gulick and his wife founded the first Camp Fire Girls camp. The purpose of this organization is to help girls (and boys since 1975) realize their potential to develop into responsible adults.

Giuseppe Garibaldi – 4¢ Green. 8¢ Carmine, ultramarine, and ochre. Italian patriot and freedom fighter Giuseppe Garibaldi is honored with these two issues which are part of the Champion of Liberty Series.

Walter F. George – 4¢ Dull violet. In addition to being a respected Georgia senator, Walter Franklin George served as President Eisenhower's special ambassador to the North Atlantic Treaty

Organization (NATO).

Andrew Carnegie – 4¢ Deep claret. This issue was released in honor of Andrew Carnegie. Industrialist and humanitarian, Carnegie was the founder of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.

John Foster Dulles – 4¢ Dull violet. This stamp was issued in honor of former secretary of State and US delegate to the United Nations General Assembly, John Foster Dulles.

Echo I Communications for Peace – 4¢ Deep violet. Commemorates Echo I, the world's first passive communications satellite, placed in orbit around the Earth on August 12, 1960.

Mahatma Gandhi – 4¢ Red orange. 8¢ Carmine, ultramarine, and ochre. Issued to honor Mohandas K. Gandhi, who was a revered leader in India's struggle for independence.

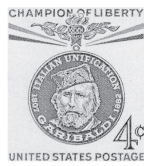
1960-1961



Baron Gustaf Mannerheim



Camp Fire Girls



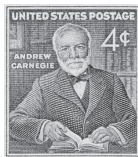
Giuseppe Garibaldi



Giuseppe Garibaldi



Walter F. George



Andrew Carnegie



John Foster Dulles



Echo I Communications for Peace



Mahatma Gandhi



Mahatma Gandhi

1961

Range Conservation – 4¢ Blue, slate, and brown orange. Featuring a reproduction of the drawing *The Trail Boss*, by Charles M. Russell, this stamp emphasizes the importance of range conservation as it developed from pioneer days through today.

Horace Greely – 4¢ Dull violet. Issued to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the birth of Horace Greely, renowned publisher and editor.

Battle of Shiloh – 4¢ Black. This issue recalls the Battle of Shiloh in which both North and South sustained heavy losses.

Battle of Gettysburg – 5¢ Gray and blue. Remembers the see-saw battle which resulted in a Confederate defeat. At the cemetery dedication ceremonies, Abraham Lincoln delivered his memorable Gettysburg Address.

Battle of the Wilderness – 5¢ Dark red and black. Marks the battle at which Ulysses S. Grant planned to decimate Robert E. Lee's army. In the end, Lee inflicted 18,000 Union losses to his own 10,000.

Kansas Statehood – 4¢ Brown, dark red, and green. Located in the Great Plains region of the United States, Kansas is the country's leading producer of wheat.

George W. Norris – 4¢ Blue green. In addition to introducing the bills that created the Tennessee Valley Authority, George Norris wrote the 20th

amendment to the United States Constitution, which changed congressional terms of office and the inauguration date of the president and vice president.

Naval Aviation – 4¢ Blue. This stamp marks the 50th anniversary of naval aviation and was released on the occasion of the meeting of the Institute of Aerospace Sciences.

Workmen's Compensation – 4¢ Ultramarine. First passed by Germany, Austria, and Great Britain in the late 1800s, workmen's compensation legislation had reached all but six United States by 1920.

Frederic Remington – 4¢ Multicolored. So renowned for his paintings, sketches, and sculptures of the Old West, Frederic Remington eventually became known as "the artist of the West."

Republic of China – 4¢ Blue. This issue celebrates the 50th anniversary of the Republic of China, which was founded by Sun Yat-Sen, who became its first president.

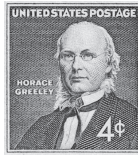
Naismith – Basketball – 4¢ Brown. Issued to commemorate the 100th birthday of Dr. James Naismith, the physical education professor who invented the game of basketball in 1891.

Nursing – 4¢ Blue, green, orange, and black. Florence Nightingale established the first school dedicated to nursing training in London in 1860.

1961



Range Conservation



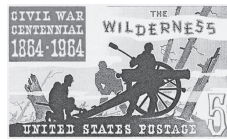
Horace Greely



Battle of Shiloh



Battle of Gettysburg



Battle of the Wilderness



Kansas Statehood



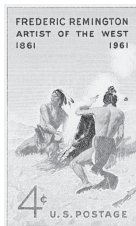
George W. Norris



Naval Aviation



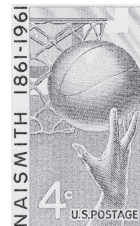
Workmen's Compensation



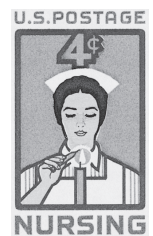
Frederic Remington



Republic of China



Naismith – Basketball



Nursing

1962

Arizona Statehood – 4¢ Carmine, violet-blue, and yellow. Arizona's state flower grows on the saguaro cactus in this illustration marking the 50th anniversary of Arizona's joining the Union.

Project Mercury – 4¢ Dark blue and yellow. This stamp commemorates the first orbital flight of a US astronaut, made by Lieutenant Colonel John Glenn Jr.

Malaria Eradication – 4¢ Blue and bistre. This issue publicized the malaria eradication drive of the World Health Organization of the United Nations.

Charles Evans Hughes – 4¢ Black. Honors the 100th anniversary of the birth of this former governor of New York and tenth chief justice of the United States Supreme Court.

Seattle World's Fair – 4¢ Red and dark blue. Publicizes the opening of the Seattle World's Fair, "Century 21," and features the 550-foot-tall rotating space needle and the monorail that took visitors from Seattle to the fair site in ninety-six seconds.

Girl Scouts – 4¢ Rose red. Celebrates the 50th anniversary of the organization of the Girl Scouts of America founded by Juliette Low.

Apprenticeship – 4¢ Black. Dating back to

antiquity, apprenticeship reached its height during the days of the European craft guild, between 1000 and 1600 AD.

Sam Rayburn – 4¢ Dark blue and red-brown. Honors lawyer Sam Rayburn, who served as speaker of the house longer than any other person.

Dag Hammarskjöld – 4¢ Black, brown and yellow. Honors the memory and work of this former Swedish statesman, Nobel Prize Winner in 1961, and former secretary general of the UN, who died in a plane crash in Congo.

Christmas – 4¢ Green and red. A wreath and burning candles were chosen as a non-sectarian, non-religious design for this first US stamp honoring Christmas.

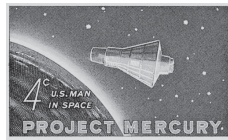
Higher Education – 4¢ Blue green and black. Issued on the 100th anniversary of the establishment of the first land-grant colleges, this stamp emphasizes the importance of higher education.

Winslow Homer – 4¢ Multicolored. In honor of the American realist painter and illustrator, this issue shows his oil painting *Breezing Up*, which hangs in the National Gallery, Washington, DC.

1962



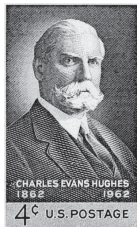
Arizona Statehood



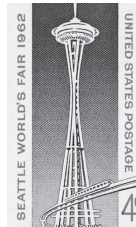
Project Mercury



Malaria Eradication



Charles Evans Hughes



Seattle World's Fair



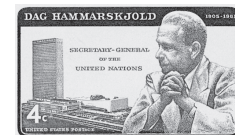
Girl Scouts



Apprenticeship



Sam Rayburn



Dag Hammarskjöld



Christmas Wreath



Higher Education



Winslow Homer

1963

50-Star Flag – 5¢ Blue and red. This stamp, picturing the American flag waving above the White House, established the pattern which is still used today in the Flag Series. The design was inspired by Mrs. John F. Kennedy, who wanted to use a stamp on White House mail that showed the White House. Unlike some countries, the American flag flies over the White House even when the president is not in Washington, DC. While in England, for example, the personal flag of the Queen flies only from the building she is in at that time.

Andrew Jackson – 1¢ Green. This portrait was taken from a presidential medal designed by Mortiz Furst and struck by the US Mint in 1829. This stamp was also issued as a rotary press coil, perforated 10 vertically.

George Washington – 5¢ Dark blue-gray. Since he appeared on the first US postage stamp in 1847, George Washington has graced more stamps than any other person in American history. He is the only president ever to have appeared on a US Christmas stamp (1977 13¢ Washington at Valley Forge). This stamp, along with the 1¢ Jackson, was issued in coil form, as well.

Carolina Charter – 5¢ Dark carmine and brown. In 1663, King Charles II granted the Carolina Charter to eight English noblemen. This was the

official beginning of Carolina's colonial period.

Food for Peace – 5¢ Green, buff, and red. Released to coincide with the opening of the World Food Congress and to emphasize the crisis in food production – as related to the population of the world.

Emancipation Proclamation – 5¢ Dark blue, black, and red. Issued on January 1, 1863, the Emancipation Proclamation called for the abolition of slavery in all states in rebellion against the Union. However, the proclamation did little to actually end slavery, as it applied only to states outside the governmental control of the Union.

Alliance for Progress – 5¢ Ultramarine and green. Marks the second anniversary of the Alliance for Progress, to stimulate growth and to restore the American image in Latin American countries.

Science – 5¢ Prussian blue and black. Issued in honor of the 100th anniversary celebration of the National Academy of Sciences and celebrates the scientific research establishment of the United States.

Christmas – 5¢ Dark blue, bluish black, and red. The second US stamp honoring the Christmas season pictures the National Christmas Tree with the White House in the background.

1963



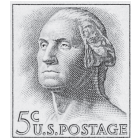
50-Star Flag



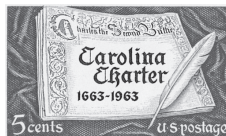
Jackson



Washington



Washington
(coil)



Carolina Charter



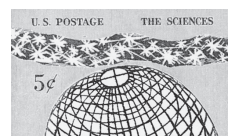
Food for Peace



Emancipation Proclamation



Alliance for Progress



Science



Christmas

1963-1964

John James Audubon – 5¢ Dark blue and multicolored. This stamp honors the superb American artist and naturalist who was famous for his beautiful paintings of birds.

John F. Kennedy – 5¢ Blue gray. Memorializes the 35th president of the United States who was assassinated in Dallas, Texas, on November 22, 1963.

American Music – 5¢ Red, black, and blue. Pays tribute to the 50th anniversary of the founding of the American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers, which was established to ensure the royalty and copyrights of works produced by composers, authors, and publishers of music.

Homemakers – 5¢ Multicolored. Honors American women as homemakers. It marks the 50th anniversary of the passage of the Smith-Lever Act, which provided for sound information for better living and home planning.

Christmas – 5¢ Green, black, and carmine. This third US Christmas issue was unique in that it was the first time the Post Office had printed more than one stamp design on one sheet. Each block of four contains four different illustrations which were issued attached or “se-tenant.” The first, mistletoe, symbolizes peace, according to ancient tradition. Holly symbolizes the thorns placed upon Christ’s head. The use of evergreens for trees and wreaths is depicted. The poinsettia is the traditional Christmas flower.

1963-1964



John J. Audubon



John F. Kennedy



American Music



Homemakers



Holly



Mistletoe



Poinsettia



Sprig of Conifer

❧ 1965-1966 ❧

Adlai Stevenson – 5¢ Pale blue, black, carmine, and violet-blue. Honors the distinguished statesman and intellectual, Adlai Stevenson. Twice nominated to run for president, Stevenson also served as the governor of Illinois and ambassador to the United Nations.

Christmas – 5¢ Carmine, dark olive green, and bister. The fourth Christmas issue features an angel with a trumpet. It was originally made available to the public weeks before Christmas to promote the Post Office's "Mail Early" campaign.

Thomas Jefferson – 1¢ Green. In addition to being a brilliant political thinker, Thomas Jefferson was a creative scientist. He experimented with new crops and farming techniques to improve his gardens. His many inventions include the swivel chair, dumb-waiter, and our current decimal monetary system.

Francis Parkman – 3¢ Violet. The leading historian of the mid-19th century, Francis Parkman combined on-site research with a colorful writing style in order to make history informative, accurate, and interesting. He is best remembered for his book *The California and Oregon Trail*, an adventurous and historic narrative on the subject.

George Washington – 5¢ Blue. Not only is George Washington popularly known as the "Father of our Country," he is also remembered as being "first in war, first in peace, and first in hearts of his countrymen." In fact, the people loved him so much they wanted to make him king, but Washington refused.

Thomas Jefferson – 1¢ Green. Perhaps the best tribute was made to our 3rd president's greatness

when President John F. Kennedy, at a dinner honoring Nobel Prize winners, stated: "I think this is the most extraordinary collection of talent, of human knowledge, that has ever been gathered together at the White House, with the possible exception of when Thomas Jefferson dined alone."

George Washington – 5¢ Blue. Thomas Jefferson best summed up Washington's character when he stated, "He was indeed, in every sense of the words, a wise, a good, and a great man...it may truly be said, that never did nature and fortune combine more perfectly to make a man great..."

Oliver W. Holmes – 15¢ Magenta. "The life of the law has not been logic: it has been experience...the law embodies the story of a nation's development through many centuries, and it cannot be dealt with as if it contained only the axioms and corollaries of a book of mathematics."

– The Common Law (1881)

Sixth International Philatelic Exhibition – On May 23, 1966, the Postal Department issued this souvenir sheet to commemorate the Sixth International Philatelic Exhibition (SIPEX). Held in Washington, DC, it was the first international stamp show to be held in our nation's capital. The sheet features a reproduction of the stamp which was issued as a tribute to the exhibition. The stamp design was a representation of an envelope, similar to one that would be kept by a "cover" collector, complete with simulated stamps and address. Pictured on the sheet beneath the stamp is a panoramic view of the capital. The sheet also carries the phrase "Discover America" – the slogan used to promote President Johnson's campaign to encourage both Americans and foreigners to travel in the United States.

❧ 1965-1966 ❧



Adlai E. Stevenson



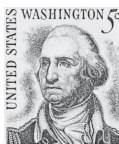
Christmas Angel



T. Jefferson



Francis Parkman



G. Washington



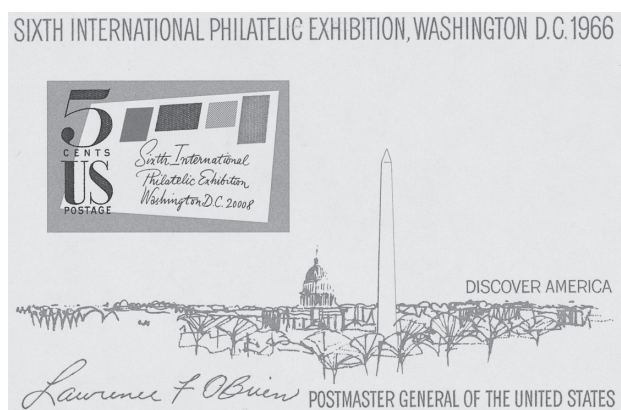
T. Jefferson



G. Washington



O.W. Holmes



Sixth International Philatelic Exhibition

❧ 1966-1967 ❧

General Federation of Women's Clubs – 5¢: Celebrates the 75th anniversary of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, which range in projects from aiding school dropouts to encouraging international understanding.

Johnny Appleseed – 5¢: John Chapman, popularly known as Johnny Appleseed, is honored with this stamp. Chapman, while voyaging the Ohio River with two canoes filled with apple seed, traveled over 100,000 square miles planting apple orchards.

Beautification of America – 5¢: Publicizes the efforts of President Lyndon B. Johnson and his wife, Lady Bird, to encourage participation in a natural beauty campaign.

Great River Road – 5¢: Issued to publicize the 5,600 mile Great River Road, which is a largely undivided highway following the Mississippi River from New Orleans to Ontario, Canada.

Christmas – 5¢ The fifth US Christmas stamp illustrates the *Madonna and Child with Angels*, by painter Hans Memling, which hangs in the National

Gallery of Art, Washington, DC.

Mary Cassatt – 5¢: Honors American painter Mary Cassatt and illustrates her painting entitled *The Boating Party*.

Canadian Centennial – 5¢: This stamp commemorates the 100th anniversary of the signing of the Articles of Confederation, which established Canada as part of the British Commonwealth. The Canadian Centennial issue was the first US stamp to have first day ceremonies and cancellation on foreign soil – in Montreal.

Search for Peace – 5¢ Publicizes the Search for Peace, an essay contest sponsored by Lions International, which encouraged school children to devise plans for achieving world peace.

Henry David Thoreau – 5¢: Issued in commemoration of the 150th birthday of Henry David Thoreau, the American author who for two years lived in solitude in a cabin so he could observe and contemplate nature.

1966-1967



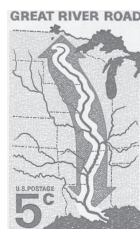
General Federation of Women's Clubs



Johnny Appleseed



Beautification of America



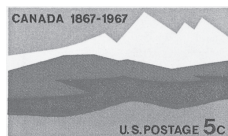
Great River Road



Christmas



Mary Cassatt



Canadian Centennial



Search for Peace



Henry David Thoreau

1967-1968

Voice of America – 5¢: Celebrates the 25th anniversary of the Voice of America, the radio broadcasting branch of the United States Information Agency.

Davy Crockett – 5¢: Issued to honor the US frontiersman, politician, and hunter, whose actions in Congress and at the Alamo (where he died) earned him recognition in American folklore.

Thomas Eakins – 5¢ Remembers American Painter Thomas Eakins, who portrayed scenes of canvas with photographic brilliance. This issue pictures *The Biglin Brothers Racing*, which hangs in the National Gallery of Art.

Christmas – 5¢ The sixth US Christmas issue utilizes the same design as the previous year, the *Madonna and Child with Angels*, by Hans Memling. However, because the stamp is nearly twice the size of the original issue greater detail can be enjoyed.

Flag & White House – 6¢ This is the re-designed version of the flag stamp issued in 1963. It

was the first to carry both the “Mail Early in the Day” and “Use Zip Code” slogans in the margins. Produced using various perforations, this stamp was also printed with an 8¢ denomination. In 1969, it became the first multicolored coil.

Illinois Statehood – 6¢: Known for its vast fields of corn, Illinois became the 21st state of the Union in 1818.

HemisFair '68 – 6¢ Publicizes the opening of the HemisFair '68 regional exhibition at San Antonio, Texas. This exhibition was held in honor of San Antonio's 250th anniversary.

Support Our Youth – 6¢ This stamp honors the youth service program of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks on the organization's 100th anniversary.

Law and Order – 6¢ Issued to encourage concern for order and respect for law, this stamp was designed to honor policemen as protectors and friends of the people.

1967-1968



Voice of America



Davy Crockett



Thomas Eakins



Christmas



PERF. 11

Flag & White House



Flag & White House
(coil)



Illinois Statehood



HemisFair '68



Support Our Youth



Law and Order

1968

Register and Vote – 6¢ This stamp was issued as part of the campaign to encourage Americans to exercise their right to vote.

The Historic American Flags Series was originally issued to coincide with a new Boy Scouts' Flag Plaza in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Nine of the ten stamps illustrate flags carried during the Revolutionary War. The other is the flag that flew over Fort McHenry during the War of 1812.

Fort Moultrie Flag – 6¢ Carried by the colonists at Fort Moultrie in 1775. Under heavy British fire, it was rescued after it had been shot from its staff.

Fort McHenry – 6¢ This was the valid 15-star US flag from 1795-1818. When the British bombarded Baltimore in the War of 1812, the flag was flying over Fort McHenry. When he saw the flag continue to wave during the battle, Francis Scott Key was inspired to write our National Anthem.

Washington's Cruisers Flag – 6¢ Shows the flag used by the US first naval cruisers. It was flown during a naval battle off Long Island, which was the first such battle in which the US took part.

Bennington Flag – 6¢ Illustrates the 13-star flag by Green Mountain Boys under General John Stark when they defeated the British and

General John Burgoyne at the Battle of Bennington.

Rhode Island Flag – 6¢ Another 13-star flag, this one was carried by the First Rhode Island Regiment at the Battles of Brandywine, Yorktown, and Trenton.

First Stars and Stripes – 6¢ Pictures the first official 13-star, 13-stripe flag authorized by the Continental Congress on June 14, 1777.

Bunker Hill Flag – 6¢ The colonists carried this flag during the battle for Boston. Technically, the Battle of Bunker Hill was a loss for the Americans, but British battle casualties were heavy.

Grand Union Flag – 6¢ In 1776, this flag was officially run up the flag pole by George Washington as the standard of the Continental Army.

Philadelphia Light Horse Flag – 6¢ This pictures the banner associated with the Philadelphia Light Horse Troop. It was carried in the battles of Princeton, Brandywine, Germantown, and Trenton.

First Navy Jack – 6¢ John Paul Jones said, "Sir, I have not yet begun to fight," when his ship *Bon Homme Richard* engaged in battle with HMS *Sarapis*. Jones flew the First Navy Jack during that famous battle.

1968



REGISTER
& VOTE US 6

Register and Vote



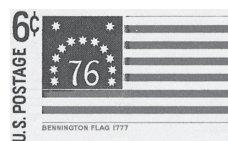
Fort Moultrie



Fort McHenry



Washington's Cruisers



Bennington



Rhode Island



First Stars and Stripes



Bunker Hill



Grand Union



Philadelphia Light Horse



First Navy Jack

1968-1969

Walt Disney – 6¢: Born in Chicago, Illinois, in 1901, Walt Disney went on to create some of the most famous cartoon characters in history. In addition, Disney envisioned the construction of two theme parks which bear his name.

Leif Erikson – 6¢ Memorializes Leif Erikson, the 11th century Norse explorer who was the first European to set foot upon the North American continent.

Waterfowl Conservation – 6¢ This stamp honors the achievements of Ducks Unlimited, which is a non-profit group dedicated to increasing resources for waterfowl and promoting conservation in North America.

Christmas – 6¢ The seventh US Christmas issue pictures the Angel Gabriel and is titled *The Annunciation*. It was painted by the Flemish painter Jan van Eyck, who often signed his paintings, “Done as well as I can.”

American Indian – 6¢: Issued to honor the American Indian, the stamp pictures Chief Joseph of the Nez Percé tribe. Chief Joseph was famous for

his war strategy, as well as his courage, honor, and the consideration he showed his enemies.

American Legion – 6¢ Founded in 1919, the American Legion is an organization of war veterans that acts to help support honorably discharged veterans and their families.

Apollo 8 – 6¢ On December 21, 1968, Apollo 8 was launched from Cape Kennedy, Florida. The goal of the mission was to put astronauts in orbit around the Moon, and advance toward the eventual goal of landing on the Moon.

California Bicentennial – 6¢ A dual purpose issue, this stamp marks the 200th anniversary of the settlement of California as well as the bicentennial of the city of San Diego.

Alabama Statehood – 6¢ First explored by Hernando de Soto of Spain, Alabama’s first permanent settlement was made by the French at Ft. Louis. In 1817, the Alabama Territory was created. Two years later, Alabama became the 22nd state to join the Union.

❧ 1968-1969 ❧



Walt Disney



Leif Erikson



Waterfowl Conservation



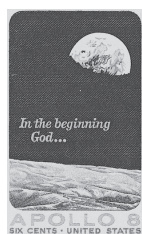
Christmas



American Indian



American Legion



Apollo 8



California Bicentennial



Alabama Statehood

1969-1970



Dwight D. Eisenhower – 6¢ As the 34th president of the United States, Dwight Eisenhower fought to control the spread of communism, worked to integrate public schools, and was responsible for the creation of NASA.

Christmas – 6¢ The design on the eighth Christmas issue from the US is taken from a painting entitled *Winter Sunday in Norway, Maine*. Painted by an unknown artist, it now belongs to the New York Historical Association in Cooperstown, NY.

William M. Harnett – 6¢ The issue honors the memory of this American artist, whose paintings are so lifelike he was once charged with counterfeiting.

Natural History – 6¢ Issued to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the opening of the Museum of Natural History. This museum – the largest of its kind in the entire world – had grown to occupy 18 buildings by 1970.

1969-1970



Dwight D. Eisenhower



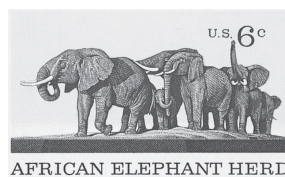
Winter Sunday in Norway, Maine



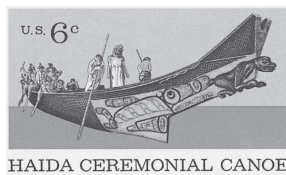
William M. Harnett



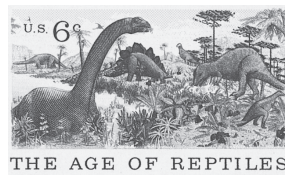
Bald Eagle



African Elephants



Haida Canoe



Age of Reptiles

1970-1971

Maine Statehood – 6¢ Part of Massachusetts until being granted statehood in 1820, Maine is the largest state in New England.

North American Buffalo – 6¢ One of America's most familiar national symbols, the North American bison has recovered from almost complete extinction to a population of over 20,000.

Dwight D. Eisenhower – 6¢ As general of the Army, Dwight D. Eisenhower led the Allied forces to a victory in Europe during World War II. A popular figure with the American people, he was elected as our 34th president. This stamp was also issued with an 8¢ denomination.

USPS Emblem – 8¢ Issued on July 1, 1971, this stamp marked the official beginning of the USPS. Prior to this date, it had been known as the US Post Office.

Amadeo P. Giannini – 21¢ Amadeo Giannini left

school at age 13, but at his death in 1949 he owned the largest bank in the US and was head of the largest private banking system in the world – the Bank of America. He pioneered statewide branch banking and opened bank doors to the common man.

Edgar Lee Masters – 6¢ This issue was intended to pay tribute to Edgar Lee Masters, the American poet and author of *Spoon River Anthology*.

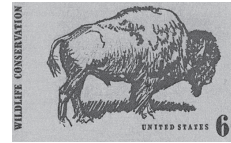
Woman Suffrage – 6¢ On August 26, 1920, Congress approved the 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution. This amendment, which climaxed a lengthy campaign by Susan B. Anthony and others, gave women the right to vote.

Christmas – Traditional – 6¢ Lorenzo Lotto painted the dramatic Nativity scene pictured on this issue. Overshadowed by more famous painters during his lifetime, Lotto tried to auction thirty of his paintings when he was 70 and impoverished, but he could sell only seven.

1970-1971



Maine Statehood



North American Buffalo



Dwight Eisenhower



Dwight Eisenhower
(booklet)



US Postal Service



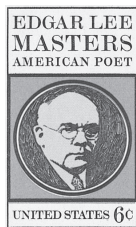
Amadeo Giannini



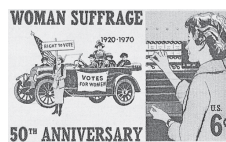
Dwight Eisenhower



Dwight Eisenhower



Edgar L. Masters



Woman Suffrage



Nativity

❧ 1970-1971 ❧

Christmas – Contemporary – 6¢ A block of four stamps with antique toy designs was selected as an additional Christmas issue. These toys help illustrate the joy Christmas brings to children around the world.

Landing of the Pilgrims – 6¢ In 1620, a group of English separatists landed at Plymouth, Massachusetts. The success of Plymouth Colony proved that man could live and prosper in New England.

Disabled American Veterans – 6¢ A tribute to American servicemen, these two stamps were issued attached. The Disabled American Veterans stamp honors servicemen living and dead, and celebrates the organization, which serves approximately 1.5 million disabled veterans and their families. The

Prisoners of War and Missing in Action stamp honors those Americans who are currently prisoners of war or missing, and raises awareness for the need for the identification and release of soldiers still in Vietnam.

America's Wool – 6¢ Used in Europe since 10,000 BC, wool was first brought to the Americas in 1521, by Hernando Cortez. This stamp celebrates the 450th anniversary of this event.

Douglas MacArthur – 6¢ Issued on the 91st birthday of General Douglas MacArthur, this issue honors a great military hero who is remembered for his promise, "I shall return," when he left Corregidor, the Philippines, in 1942.

1970-1971



Antique Toy – Locomotive



Antique Toy – Horse



Antique Toy – Tricycle



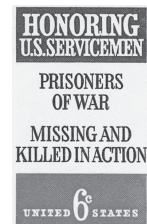
Antique Toy – Doll Carriage



Landing of the Pilgrims



Disabled Veterans



Prisoners of War



America's Wool



Douglas MacArthur

1971

Blood Donors – 6¢ Issued at a time when blood donations were not keeping up with demand, this stamp was meant to raise awareness of blood donor programs, thus increasing needed donations.

Missouri Statehood – 8¢ Commemorating the 150th anniversary of Missouri statehood, this stamp was issued on the 87th birthday of President Harry Truman, in Truman's hometown of Independence, Missouri.

Wildlife Conservation – 8¢ This block of four stamps was issued to raise awareness of the plight of endangered species. The polar bear, the California condor (one of the rarest birds in the world) and the alligator have all been threatened with extinction. Increased water pollution has also put several

species of trout in jeopardy.

Antarctic Treaty – 8¢ This stamp was issued on the ten-year anniversary of the signing of the Antarctic Treaty – an agreement among twelve nations meant to foster scientific cooperation in the Antarctic region. It was hoped that this cooperation would lead to more peaceful uses of the Antarctic and its resources.

American Revolution Bicentennial – 8¢ In protest of unfair taxation by the British government, the Colonies began mobilizing an army, made up chiefly of minutemen. On April 19, 1775, Great Britain sent a force to destroy the Continental Army. The fighting which broke out at Concord, Massachusetts, was the beginning of the American Revolution.

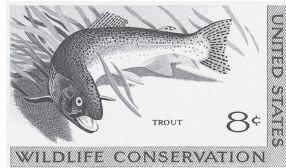
1971



Blood Donors



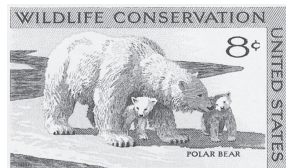
Missouri Statehood



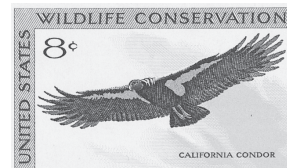
Trout



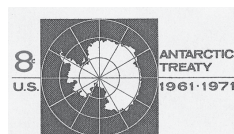
Alligator



Polar Bear



California Condor



Antarctic Treaty



American Revolution – 200 yrs.

1971

United States in Space – Decade of Achievement – 8¢ These stamps were originally issued as an attached pair to coincide with the flight of Apollo XV and to mark the 10th anniversary of John Glenn’s Project Mercury flight, which sent the first man into orbit.

Emily Dickinson – 8¢ Born in 1830, Emily Dickinson is believed to have written eight hundred poems during the Civil War era alone. However, she only allowed seven of her poems to be published during her lifetime, and insisted these be published anonymously.

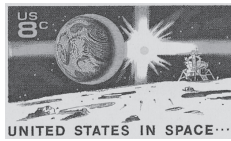
San Juan – 8¢ This stamp commemorates the 450th anniversary of San Juan, Puerto Rico – the

oldest continuously inhabited city in America.

Prevent Drug Abuse – 8¢ Postmaster Gen. Winton M. Blount said at the dedication ceremonies, “The stamp... is not, in fact, a commemorative stamp at all. It is, rather a warning, a plea for help and a call to the American people to take every step to lift up those who have fallen under the use of drugs, and to strike down those who profit from the misery of others...”

CARE – 8¢ This stamp commemorates the 25th anniversary of CARE (Cooperative for American Relief Everywhere) which delivered its first packages to Europe on May 11, 1946, in the aftermath of World War II.

1971



United States in Space



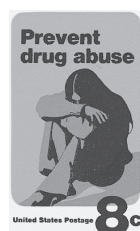
A Decade of Achievement



Emily Dickinson



San Juan



Prevent Drug Abuse



CARE

1971-1972

Historic Preservation – 8¢ This block of four stamps, originally issued attached, illustrates the historic preservation movement in the United States. Showcased on these stamps are: a cable car which still operates on ten miles of track; a 19th century whaling vessel anchored in Mystic, Connecticut; the San Xavier del Bac Mission, which has been in existence since 1797; and Decatur House, built in 1819, which is now a house museum.

Christmas – Traditional – 8¢ The design of this stamp is based on Giorgione's *Adoration of the Shepherds*, which was painted on wood about 1510 and hangs in the National Gallery of Art.

Christmas – Contemporary – 8¢ Jamie Wyeth (the son of artist Andrew Wyeth) based his painting

A Partridge in a Pear Tree on the famous English Christmas carol, "The Twelve Days of Christmas."

Peace Corps – 8¢ Founded in 1961, the goals of the Peace Corps are simple: "To help the people of interested countries in meeting their need for trained men and women. To help promote a better understanding of Americans on the part of the people served. To help promote a better understanding of other peoples on the part of Americans." By 1972, the number of volunteers had reached 50,000. By 2001, that number had grown to over 160,000.

Family Planning – 8¢ This stamp was issued to highlight the issue of responsible family planning, in an attempt to control rapid population growth

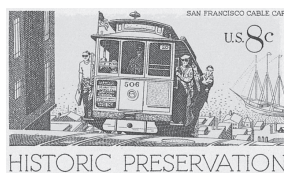
1971-1972



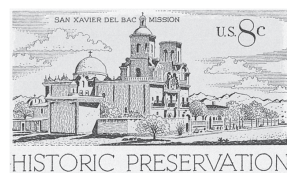
Decatur House



Charles W. Morgan



San Francisco Cable Car



San Xavier Del Bac Mission



Adoration of the Shepherds



A Partridge in a Pear Tree



Peace Corps



Family Planning

❧ 1972-1973 ❧

11th Winter Olympics – Bobsledding – 8¢ Originating in Switzerland in the 1800s, bobsled racing has been included as part of the Olympic Games since 1924. Originally, tobogganers added runners to their sleds to increase speed, and they banked the course to add excitement. This issue salutes the 11th Olympic Winter Games.

Parent Teacher Association – 8¢: Celebrates the 75th anniversary of the National Parent Teacher Association, which has tried to unite the home, school, and community in order to improve the quality of living and learning of today's youth.

Mail Order Centennial – 8¢ Aaron Montgomery Ward pioneered the mail order industry in 1872. This industry has been particularly beneficial in rural and remote areas.

Tom Sawyer – 8¢ This stamp salutes Tom Sawyer, who "lived" along the Mississippi River about 1845. Created by Mark Twain, Tom represented the typical adventurous American boy.

Christmas – Traditional – 8¢ This religious-themed Christmas stamp comes from a panel painted by an unknown Flemish artist. The entire painting is titled *Mary, Queen of Heaven*, and it currently hangs in the National Gallery of Art, Washington, DC.

Christmas – Contemporary – 8¢ Originating with the story of St. Nicholas – the patron saint of

children – Santa Claus has become the symbol of Christmas for children everywhere.

LOVE – 8¢ Designed by American artist Robert Indiana, this stamp was issued for special occasion uses such as weddings or valentines. In keeping with its theme, it was released in Philadelphia, "The City of Brotherly Love."

Transistors and Circuit Board – 8¢ Another salute to electronic progress, this issue commemorates the invention of the transistor by Bell Telephone Laboratories in 1948. The transistor made miniaturization possible and opened the door for production of pocket radios and computer parts.

Angus Cattle – 8¢ Issued as part of a series honoring America's rural life, this stamp marks the 100th anniversary of the arrival of Scottish Black Angus cattle to the United States.

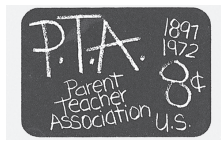
Christmas – Traditional – 8¢ In recognition of the Christmas season, this stamp features the masterpiece *The Small Cowper Madonna* by Raphael. Today, the painting hangs in the National Gallery of Art, Washington, DC.

Christmas – Contemporary – 8¢ Unlike the 1964 Homemakers stamp, which was designed to represent needlepoint, this issue was actually designed in needlepoint. It took the designer just ten days to create this work of art.

1972-1973



11th Winter Olympics – Bobsledding



Parent Teacher Association



Mail Order Centennial



Tom Sawyer



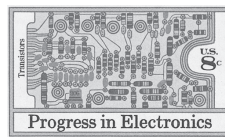
Mary, Queen of Heaven



Santa Claus



Love



Transistors and Circuit Board



Angus Cattle



The Small Cowper Madonna



Christmas Tree

1973-1974

50-Star & 13-Star Flags – 10¢ The two crossed flags show the current 5-star flag and the 13-star flag of the Revolutionary era. Contrary to popular belief, when the first flag was created there was no specified arrangement for the 13 stars. Although it is most commonly seen with all 13 stars in a circle, some had 12 stars encircling the 13th. However, all carried 13 stripes. As new states came into the Union, a star and stripe were added to the flag for each one. By 1817, the flag had 20 stars and 20 stripes. Congress felt this looked too cluttered and decided to keep just 13 stripes and add only a star for each new state. In 1960, the fiftieth star was added for Hawaii, giving us the flag we still use today.

Jefferson Memorial – 10¢ Located on the south side of the Tidal Basin in Washington, DC, the Jefferson Memorial is one of the three memorials to famous American presidents. Built in the classical style that Jefferson preferred, the memorial overlooks the Potomac River and is surrounded by picturesque cherry trees. Inside stands an 18-foot statue of Thomas Jefferson. Quotations from his writings, including the Declaration of Independence, are etched on the four interior walls. The building was dedicated on April 13, 1943 – Jefferson's 200th birthday.

Zip Code – 10¢ This colorful stamp was issued to publicize ZIP codes. The Zoning Improvement Plan,

hence the name ZIP code, was introduced by the US Post Office Department in 1963. This five-digit national coding system identifies each postal area and allows for speedier and more accurate handling of the mail. The design, which shows different forms of transportation used to carry the mail, was taken from a pop art poster created by artist Randall McDougall.

Liberty Bell – 6.3¢ The 6.3¢ Liberty Bell issue was the first fractional coil stamp to be produced. Although other regular issues carried fractional values, they had been printed as part of a series and were sold in the conventional sheet format.

Preserve the Environment – 10¢ Peter Max designed this pop art stamp saluting Expo '74, the World's Fair at Spokane, Washington. "Preserve the Environment" was the fair's theme.

Horse Racing – 10¢ The Kentucky Derby is held the first Saturday in May at Churchill Downs in Louisville, Kentucky. The contest is for 3-year-old horses, running one and a quarter miles. It is the nation's oldest continually run horse race.

Skylab – 10¢ This issue celebrates the first anniversary of the launching of Skylab I, the first orbiting space laboratory. Skylab eventually returned to Earth with about 94,000 frames of film and 100,000 feet of tape for space researchers to study.

1973-1974



50 & 13-Star Flags



Jefferson Memorial



ZIP Code Theme



Liberty Bell
(coil)



50 & 13-Star Flags
(coil)



Jefferson Memorial
(coil)



Preserve the Environment



Horse Racing



Skylab

1974



This series was issued to mark the 100th anniversary of the UPU. The eight stamps display the theme of writing and reading letters. The design of each stamp was taken from paintings done by eight different international artists.

Raphael – 10¢ From the Italian artist Raphael's *School of Athens* in the Vatican. Raphael gave Heraclitus the features of Michelangelo.

Hokusai – 10¢ From *Five Feminine Virtues*, by famed Japanese artist Katsushika Hokusai.

Peto – 10¢ From *Old Scraps (Old Letter Rack)*, by American artist John Frederick Peto.

Liotard – 10¢ From *The Lovely Reader*, by famed Swiss painter Jean Etienne Liotard.

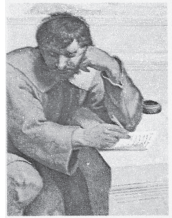
Terborch – 10¢ From *Lady Writing a Letter*, by Dutch artist Gerard Terborch.

Chardin – 10¢ From *Young Boy with a Top*, by French master Jean-Baptiste-Simeon Chardin.

Gainsborough – 10¢ From *Mrs. John Douglas*, painted by English artist Thomas Gainsborough.

Goya – 10¢ From the portrait *Don Antonia Noriega*, by Spanish artist Francisco de Goya.

1974



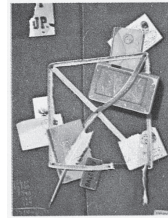
Letters
mingle souls
Donne
Raphael
IOcUS

Raphael



Universal
Postal Union
1874-1974
Hokusai
IOcUS

Katsushika Hokusai



Letters
mingle souls
Donne
Peto
IOcUS

John Frederick Peto



Universal
Postal Union
1874-1974
Liotard
IOcUS

Jean Etienne Liotard



Letters
mingle souls
Donne
Terborch
IOcUS

Gerard Terborch



Universal
Postal Union
1874-1974
Chardin
IOcUS

Jean-Baptiste-Simeon Chardin



Letters
mingle souls
Donne
Gainsborough
IOcUS

Thomas Gainsborough



Universal
Postal Union
1874-1974
Goya
IOcUS

Francisco de Goya

1974-1975

Continental Congress – 10¢ This block of four stamps commemorates the Continental Congress, which organized the American colonies to revolt against British rule. Two of the stamps feature historic quotations, and two show buildings where the Continental Congress met in Philadelphia.

Legend of Sleepy Hollow – 10¢ This stamp was issued just in time for use on Halloween mail. The stamp pictures a scene from Washington Irving's famous folk tale, *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow*, in which poor Ichabod Crane, the timid schoolteacher, is being chased by the dreaded Headless Horseman.

Retarded Children – 10¢ The National Association for Retarded Citizens (NARC) was founded in 1950 to promote the welfare of mentally retarded persons of all ages and to prevent mental retardation. NARC played a major role in the passage of legislation concerned with developmental disabilities.

Christmas – Traditional – 10¢ A "mystery angel," this Christmas design was taken from one of the panels of a large altarpiece painting created in 1480. The artist and the place where the work was originally installed, however, remain unknown.

Christmas – Contemporary – 10¢ The scene on this holiday stamp is from a 19th century Currier & Ives lithograph. Currier and Ives published more than 7,000 images in the mid- and late-1800s, showing a broad spectrum of American life.

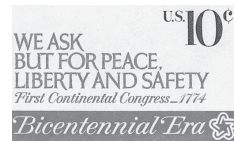
Benjamin West – 10¢ West was the first American artist to go abroad. He gained critical acclaim when he was just twenty years of age, and went on to become a historical painter to King George III.

Paul Lawrence Dunbar – 10¢ American writer and poet, Dunbar was the son of an escaped slave. His writing greatly contributed to a more sensitive understanding of African Americans.

1974-1975



Carpenters' Hall



First Continental Congress



Declaration of Independence



Independence Hall



Legend of Sleepy Hollow



Retarded Children



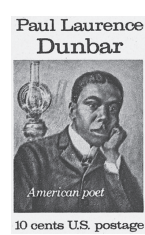
Angel



The Road – Winter



Benjamin West



Paul Laurence Dunbar

1975

D.W. Griffith – 10¢ Griffith was a pioneer of the silver screen. He refined movie techniques, like close-ups and fade-outs, and discovered the talents of stars such as Lillian Gish and Mary Pickford.

Pioneer 10 – 10¢ An unmanned space vehicle, Pioneer 10 relayed information about weather, atmosphere, and radiation. It also passed within 81,000 miles of the planet Jupiter on December 3, 1973. One year later, Pioneer 11 narrowed the distance to 27,000 miles.

Mariner 10 – 10¢ Mariner 10 swung within 3,600 miles of Venus in 1974. Afterward, it made the first near examination ever of Mercury, the smallest planet in the Solar System.

Collective Bargaining – 10¢ The Wagner Act, passed in 1935 and later amended by the Taft-Hartley Act of 1947, required employers to negotiate with elected representatives of their workers.

Sybil Ludington – 8¢ Part of the Contributors to the Cause Series, this issue honors 16-year-old Sybil Ludington. The girl rode her horse across 40 miles of countryside to rally her father's militia regiment to repel British forces at Danbury, Connecticut. The story of each person in this series is printed on the

back of his or her stamp.

Salem Poor – 10¢ Second in the Contributors to the Cause Series is Salem Poor. Poor is a much celebrated African American soldier who fought at the Battle of Bunker Hill. Fourteen officers signed a commendation citing him for bravery.

Haym Salomon – 10¢ The third stamp in the Contributors to the Cause Series commemorates Haym Salomon. This Polish-born merchant and banker raised much of the money that financed the Revolution. Twice imprisoned by the British, he continued to donate freely to the American cause, only to die penniless after the war.

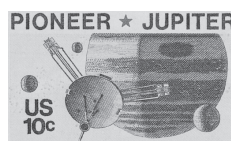
Lexington and Concord – 10¢ The Battles of Lexington and Concord are traditionally remembered as the first events of the Revolutionary War, and the site of the "shot heard 'round the world."

Battle of Bunker Hill – 10¢: The Battle of Bunker Hill was the first major confrontation between American and British forces in the Revolutionary War. One thousand British soldiers and one eighth of all enemy officers were lost in that battle. The British finally won – when the Americans ran out of gunpowder.

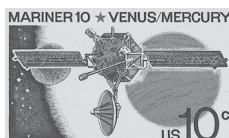
1975



D.W. Griffith



Pioneer 10, Jupiter



Mariner 10, Venus & Mercury



Collective Bargaining



Sybil Ludington Youthful Heroine

Sybil Ludington



Salem Poor Gallant Soldier

Salem Poor



Haym Salomon Financial Hero

Haym Salomon



Lexington & Concord 1775 by Sandham
US Bicentennial IOcents

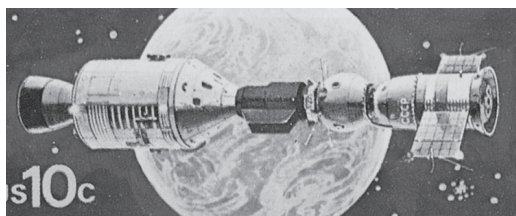
Lexington and Concord



Bunker Hill 1775 by Trumbull
US Bicentennial IOc

Battle of Bunker Hill

1975



Military Services – 10¢ On June 14, 1775, the Second Continental Congress adopted a motion to create ten companies of infantry that became the Continental Army. On October 13, 1775, the Second Continental Congress authorized the formation of a Navy, which was initially composed of two ships with ten guns each. On November 10, 1775, Congress formed two battalions of Marines to fight at sea and on the adjoining beaches. The Militia, today called the National Guard, was America's original armed force against Great Britain, fighting at Lexington, Concord, and Bunker Hill.

Apollo-Soyuz – 10¢ Apollo-Soyuz was the first mission undertaken by Russian and American astronauts in a joint, peaceful quest into outer space. Issued as an attached pair, these stamps illustrate the main objective of the mission, which was a successful docking in space.

1975



Continental Army



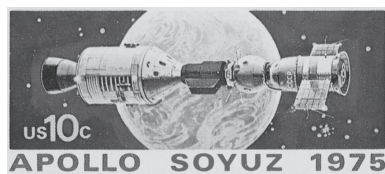
Continental Navy



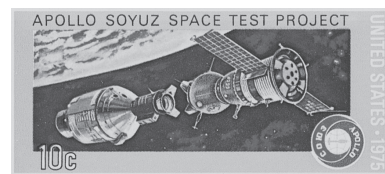
Continental Marines



Continental Militia



Apollo-Soyuz



Space Test Project

1975



International Women's Year – 10¢ The UN declared 1975 to be International Women's Year in order to focus attention on the status of women in the world, to seek improvement in women's human rights, and to encourage women's political involvement.

USPS Bicentennial – 10¢ This block of four stamps displays the different modes of transportation used for conveying mail over the years by road, rail, air, and space.

World Peace Through Law – 10¢ This stamp was issued as a prelude to the Seventh World Law Conference of the World Peace Through Law Center. The First World Peace Through Law Conference took place in Athens in 1963, attended by 2,500 legal representatives from all over the world.

1975



International Women's Year



Tractor, Trailer, and Stage Coach



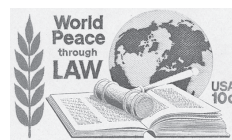
Locomotives



Airplanes



Satellite and Satellite Dish



World Peace Through Law

1975-1977

Banking and Commerce – 10¢ Shown on this se-tenant pair is an Indian Head Penny, a quarter, a 20-dollar Gold Double Eagle, and a Morgan-type Silver Dollar. The background reproduces a security design found in currency, stocks, and bonds.

Christmas – Traditional – 10¢ This Christmas issue shows a detail of *The Madonna and Child*, painted by Italian artist Domenico di Tommaso Ghirlandaio. Because postage rates for late 1975 were uncertain, both Christmas stamps were issued with no denomination; they were the first non-denominated US stamps.

Christmas – Contemporary – 10¢ This Christmas stamp shows one of the earliest Christmas cards printed in the United States. The original card, printed in 1878, included the words, “Ring the joybells – ring. Christ is born – our King.” However, this wording was omitted on this non-religious Christmas issue.

Inkwell and Quill – 1¢ “*A written word is the choicest of relics. It is something at once more*

intimate with us and more universal than any other work of art.”

– Henry David Thoreau, 1854

Speaker’s Stand – 2¢ “*...we look forward for a world founded upon four essential human freedoms. The first is freedom of speech and expression – everywhere in the world.*”

– Franklin D. Roosevelt, 1941

Early Ballot Box – 3¢ “*This right to vote is the basic right without which all others are meaningless. It gives people – people as individuals – control over their own destinies.*”

– Lyndon B. Johnson, 1957

Books and Eyeglasses – 4¢ “*These libraries have improved the general conversation of the Americans, made the common tradesman and farmers as intelligent as most gentlemen from other countries, and...contributed...to the stand so generally made throughout the Colonies in defense of their privileges.*”

– Benjamin Franklin, 1750

1975-1977



Banking



Commerce



Madonna and Child



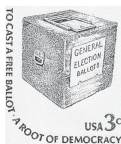
Christmas Card



Inkwell & Quill



Speaker's Stand



Early Ballot Box



Books & Eyeglasses

❧ 1975-1979 ❧

Dome of Capitol – 9¢ *“The right of people ‘peaceably to assemble’...The right attaches to the obscure, the unpopular, the unorthodox, as well as the dominant groups.”*

– William O. Douglas, 1954

Justice – 10¢ *“Some men look at constitutions with sanctimonious reverence, and deem them like the ark of the covenant, too sacred to be touched. They ascribe to the men of the preceding age a wisdom more than human, and suppose what they did to be beyond amendment...laws and institutions must go hand in hand with the progress of the human mind...”*

– Thomas Jefferson, 1816

Printing Press – 11¢ *“Absolute freedom of the press to discuss public questions is a foundation stone of American liberty.”*

– Herbert Hoover, 1929

Eagle and Shield – 13¢ *E Pluribus Unum* is the unofficial motto of the United States. Meaning “one from many,” its concept was best described when Michel Guillaume Jean de Crevecoeur, French author and naturalist, stated: “Here (in America) individuals of all nations are melted into a new race of men...”

Liberty Bell – 13¢ In 1751, the Liberty Bell was used to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of William Penn’s “Charter of Privileges” which, in 1701, granted religious and personal liberty to the Pennsylvanian colonists.

Old North Church – 24¢ A lantern hung in the belfry of the Old North Church, situated on Beacon Hill in Boston, MA, was the signal that started Paul Revere on his midnight ride to warn the townspeople that the British were coming. His message prevented the certain capture and possible execution of John Hancock and Samuel Adams.

“Betty” Lamp – 50¢ *“Is life so dear or peace so*

sweet as to be purchased at the price of chains and slavery?... I know not what course others may take; but as for me, give me liberty, or give me death.”

– Patrick Henry, 1775

The iron “Betty” lamp was a primary source of light for settlers in the Plymouth colonies during the mid 1600s to the late 1700s.

Rush Lamp – \$1 *“Knowledge will forever govern ignorance, and a people who mean to be their own governors must arm themselves with the power which is knowledge.”*

– James Madison, 1822

During the 18th century the rush lamp, consisting of a rush dipped once in wax and held by pincers attached to a stand, provided light for the pioneers.

Grand Piano – 8.4¢ The grand piano is comprised of 230 steel-wire strings and is tuned to 88 different notes. Its shortest string is only 2 inches long, while the longest string is 80 inches.

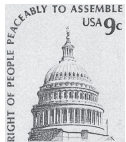
Justice – 10¢ This stamp features the statue “Contemplation of Justice,” by well-known American sculptor James Earle Fraser. Fraser also designed the buffalo nickel issued by the US Treasury in 1913.

Fort McHenry Flag – 15¢ Flown during the War of 1812, this flag had 15 stars and 15 stripes. Two stars and stripes were added to the original 13 when Vermont and Kentucky joined the Union.

Flag over Independence Hall – 13¢ One of the most famous buildings in Philadelphia, Independence Hall was the scene of many important events in early American history.

Interphil ’76 – 13¢: The seventh US International Philatelic Exhibition, held in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, was the largest international philatelic event ever to take place in the United States.

❧ 1975-1979 ❧



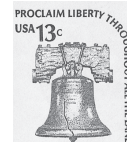
Dome of Capitol



Justice



Printing Press



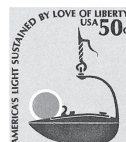
Liberty Bell



Eagle & Shield



North Church, Boston



"Betty" Lamp



Rush Lamp



Grand Piano



Justice



Fort McHenry Flag



Flag over Indep. Hall
(coil)



Interphil '76

1976

Telephone Centennial – 13¢ In March 1876, Alexander Graham Bell successfully tested his invention, the telephone, with the famous words, “Mr. Watson, come here. I want you!”

Commercial Aviation – 13¢ The Post Office Department got commercial aviation off the ground in 1926, when it contracted for private firms to carry the mail. By 1976, commercial flight was the principal means of intercity passenger travel.

Chemistry – 13¢ The American Chemical Society was founded April 6, 1876. Chemistry is the scientific study of substances, how they behave and change under different conditions, and how they interact.

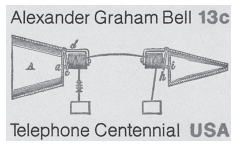
Benjamin Franklin – 13¢ This issue is part of the American Revolution Bicentennial Series. The stamp honors Benjamin Franklin, first US postmaster

general, signer of the Declaration of Independence and the US Constitution, American diplomat to France, publisher, writer, scientist, and inventor.

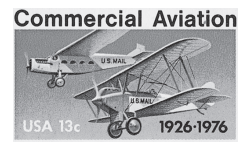
Declaration of Independence – 13¢ This set-tenant of four stamps commemorates John Hancock’s signing of the Declaration of Independence at Independence Hall in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Hancock was the president and only member of the Continental Congress to sign the document on that date. The design reproduces a painting by John Trumbull (1756-1843).

Olympics – 13¢ This block of four stamps commemorates the 12th Winter Olympic Games at Innsbruck, Austria, and the 21st Olympiad held in Montreal, Canada. Interestingly, of the four sports represented, only running dates back to the original Greek Olympic Games.

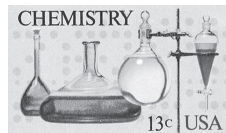
1976



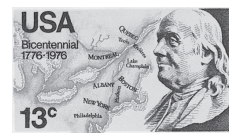
Telephone Centennial



Commercial Aviation



Chemistry



Benjamin Franklin



Declaration of Independence



Declaration of Independence



Declaration of Independence



Declaration of Independence



Diving



Skiing



Running



Skating

1976-1977

Clara Maass – 13¢ Maass was an American nurse who volunteered for experiments to control yellow fever and malaria in Cuba. Bitten by the *stegomyia* mosquito, she contracted a slight case of yellow fever, but recovered. Two months later, she volunteered again. This time she died within ten days. Maass was the only woman and the only American to die during these experiments.

Adolph S. Ochs – 13¢ Ochs was the publisher of *The New York Times* from 1896 until 1935. He imposed new standards on the newspaper. He rejected non-credible advertising, and separated editorial opinion from news reporting.

Christmas – Traditional – 13¢ John Singleton Copley's *Nativity* was painted in 1776 and appropriately adorns this 1976 Christmas issue. Copley created few religious paintings. *Nativity* is the only Madonna and Child he did.

Christmas – Contemporary – 13¢ The subject of this Christmas issue is a lithograph by Nathaniel Currier from 1855, entitled *Winter Pastime*. Currier created it two years before he became a partner with James Ives.

Washington at Princeton – 13¢ The stamp design is based on a portrait by Charles Willson Peale, who fought at Princeton, New Jersey, as a first lieutenant with the Philadelphia militia. General George Washington's forces defeated British forces in a battle at Princeton on January 3, 1777.

Sound Recording – 13¢ Thomas Alva Edison invented the first practical phonograph in 1877. That early device used tinfoil wrapped around a cylinder to record vibrations created by sound. The sounds thus recorded could be played back. The stamp was released during the 9th Annual Cultural Award Dinner of the Recording Institutes of America, Inc.

1976-1977



Clara Maass



Adolph S. Ochs

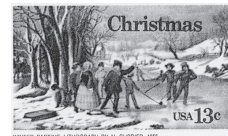


Nativity



BRIGHT COLORS

Winter Pastime

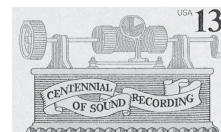


DULL COLORS

Winter Pastime



Washington at Princeton



Sound Recording

1977



Pueblo Indian Art – 13¢ This se-tenant set of four stamps, part of the American Folk Art Series, was issued to commemorate the pottery skills of the Pueblo Indians of Arizona and New Mexico. This particular art form is still practiced, but the pieces shown in these stamp designs were produced sometime between 1880 and 1920.

Butterflies – 13¢ This block of four issues features butterflies from four different geographic areas of the United States. The particular species illustrated were selected on the basis of contrasting colorations, to provide design variety.

1977



Zia: Museum of New Mexico
Pueblo Art USA 13c

Pueblo Art – Zia



San Ildefonso: Denver Art Museum
Pueblo Art USA 13c

Pueblo Art – San Ildefonso



Hopi: Heard Museum Phoenix
Pueblo Art USA 13c

Pueblo Art – Hopi



Acoma: School of American Research
Pueblo Art USA 13c

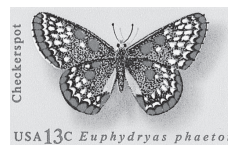
Pueblo Art – Acoma



Swallowtail

USA13C *Papilio oregonius*

Swallowtail



Checkerspot

USA13C *Euphydryas phaeton*

Checkerspot



Dogface

USA13C *Colias eurydice*

Dogface



Orange-Tip

USA13C *Anthocaris midea*

Orange-Tip

1977



Marquis de Lafayette – 13¢ Lafayette was a French soldier and statesman. He landed on the coast of South Carolina on June 13, 1777, with a party of soldier-adventurers to join the fight for American independence. He agreed to serve without pay on the staff of General George Washington.

Skilled Hands for Independence – 13¢ These four stamps honor early American civilians whose skills were essential to the winning of the Revolutionary War. The seamstress sewed uniforms and flags. The blacksmith shod the horses and constructed metal fittings for the cannons. The wheelwright made transportation possible. The leather worker fashioned the saddles, boots, and holsters.

Peace Bridge – 13¢ The Peace Bridge extends 4,400 feet across the Niagara River from Buffalo, New York, to Fort Erie, Ontario. The bridge opened August 7, 1927, a symbol of friendship between the US and Canada.

1977



Marquis de Lafayette



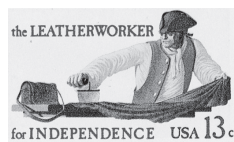
Seamstress



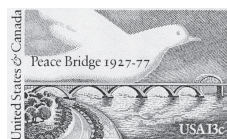
Blacksmith



Wheelwright



Leatherworker



Peace Bridge

❧ 1977-1978 ❧

Herkimer at Oriskany – 13¢ Brigadier General Nicholas Herkimer and his men were ambushed while bringing relief to besieged Fort Stanwix. After being wounded in the leg, Herkimer directed the battle from under a beech tree. He died days later, the victim of crude surgery. The Battle of Oriskany succeeded in denying the British access to Albany.

Energy Conservation and Development – 13¢ Increased prices and decreased supplies of imported oil during the 1970s sparked an emphasis on energy conservation and the development of alternative sources of energy.

First Civil Settlement, Alta California – 13¢ On November 19, 1777, the Spanish founded the Pueblo de San Jose de Guadalupe, the first civil settlement in Alta (Upper) California. Alta California consisted of the present states of California, Nevada, Utah, Arizona, and parts of New Mexico, Colorado, and Wyoming.

Drafting the Articles of Confederation – 13¢ The Articles of Confederation were drafted by the Continental Congress in Yorktown, Pennsylvania, in 1777. The Articles were in force until they were replaced by the US Constitution in 1789.

Talking Pictures – 13¢ This commemorates the opening date of *The Jazz Singer*, starring Al Jolson. That film is commonly accepted as the first commercial feature film with synchronized

dialogue, or “talking picture.”

Surrender at Saratoga – 13¢ British General John Burgoyne surrendered to American General Horatio Gates at Saratoga, New York, on October 17, 1777, after being decisively defeated by the American forces. This battle marked a major turning point in the Revolutionary War.

Christmas – Contemporary – 13¢ This Christmas issue depicts General George Washington kneeling in prayer at Valley Forge, where his barefoot and half-starved army retreated to spend the winter of 1777-78.

Christmas – Contemporary – 13¢ Rural mailboxes came into use in 1896 and represented a new link for isolated farm families with the rest of the world.

Captain James Cook – 13¢ This two-stamp se-tenant issue marks the 200th anniversary of Captain James Cook’s visits to Hawaii and Alaska in 1778. This issue is unique in that one of the stamps was printed vertically and the other printed horizontally.

Indian Head Penny – 13¢ To lower production costs and increase output, the USPS experimented with this “midget” stamp. The smaller image area, which was about one-third smaller than usual, provided for 150 stamps per pane instead of the usual 100. This unique issue pictures the 1877 Indian Head Penny, a prized collector coin.

1977-1978



Herkimer at Oriskany 1777 by Yohn
US Bicentennial 13cents

Herkimer at Oriskany



Energy Conservation



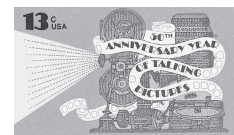
Energy Development



First Civil Settlement – Alta California



Drafting of the Articles of Confederation



Talking Pictures



Surrender at Saratoga 1777 by Trumbull
US Bicentennial 13cents

Surrender at Saratoga



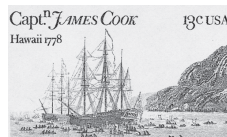
Washington



Rural Mailbox



Captain James Cook



Resolution (Hawaii)



Indian Head Penny

1978

“A” Definitive – 15¢ As postal costs increased, the Postal Service began to increase their rates for the various classes of mail. Before becoming effective, however, these rate increases had to be submitted to the Postal Rate Commission for approval. Often, the PRC would take as much as a year conducting studies and compiling data before accepting or rejecting the changes. If the rate increase was approved, the Postal Service then had to rush to design and produce the new stamps. In 1975, after the rate had changed from 10¢ to 13¢, the Postal Service printed this non-denominated stamp so it would be ready and waiting for the next rate change. A letter of the alphabet was used to represent the unknown rate, so the stamps could meet customer demand until new definitives bearing the actual rate were printed. When the rate increased in 1978 from 13¢ to 15¢, the first non-denominated stamp was put into use.

Medallion Rose – 15¢ With the issue of this stamp, the rose made an appearance for the first time on American postage. Since then, this fragrant flower has

become a popular postal subject.

Windmills – 15¢ The earliest-known windmills were used in Persia around 644 AD and were later adopted by the Europeans in the 12th century. For over 650 years, these devices were an important source of power. However, the discovery of steam power in the early 19th century brought about a gradual decline in their use. Although many people think only of picturesque windmills dotting the Dutch countryside, they were widely used on American farms throughout the 1700s and 1800s. Today, many of these graceful structures have disappeared, but the possibility of electrical power generated by wind has been under study in recent years.

American Quilts – 13¢ This original block of four was based on a “basket” design from an American quilt made in New York City in 1875. Although the industrial revolution made it possible to mass produce inexpensive blankets, the quilt was considered to be attractive, practical, and very economical.

1978



"A" Eagle



"A" Eagle
(booklet)



"A" Eagle
(coil)



Medallion Roses



Virginia



Rhode Island



Massachusetts



Illinois



Texas



Basket Design – Flowers



Basket Design – Stars



Basket Design – Stripes



Basket Design – Plaid

❧ 1978 ❧



American Dance – 13¢ This block of four stamps was issued to commemorate the contribution of dance to American society. Represented are ballet, folk, or square dance, modern dance, and theater.

George M. Cohan – 15¢ Marks the 100th anniversary of the birth of this American actor and popular songwriter, playwright, producer, and director. Cohan wrote “Yankee Doodle Dandy” and was awarded a special Congressional Medal of Honor for his patriotic songs.

1978



Ballet



Theatre



Folk



Modern



George M. Cohan

❧ 1978-1979 ❧

Canada International Philatelic Exhibition – 13¢ Issued in conjunction with the 1978 Canadian Philatelic Exhibition in Toronto, the CAPEX stamps were part of the first US souvenir sheet released outside the country. Eight different stamps feature popular animals and birds from North America.

Photography – 15¢ The first commemorative stamp to bear the new 15¢ postage rate, this stamp was issued in recognition of the contributions photography has made to American life.

Viking Missions – 15¢ Launched in 1975, Viking I and Viking II, both unmanned space vehicles, carried out research programs on Mars and sent photos and data back to Earth. They continued to transmit information to Earth for nearly three years.

Christmas – Traditional 15¢: This Christmas issue features a terra cotta sculpture of the Madonna and Child by Andrea della Robbia. The sculpture is located in the National Gallery of Art in Washington, DC.

Christmas – Contemporary – 15¢: This issue depicts a child astride a rocking horse in front of a Christmas tree. It conveys the message of joy at Christmas time.

Robert F. Kennedy – 15¢ Commemorates the life of Robert Francis Kennedy, a prominent political figure. Kennedy served as a US senator and US attorney general. Like his brother, John F. Kennedy, Robert was killed by an assassin's bullet. He was shot in 1968 after winning the California presidential primary. The stamp design was taken from a family photo suggested by Mrs. Ethel Kennedy.

1978-1979



Cardinal



Mallard



Canada Goose



Blue Jay



Moose



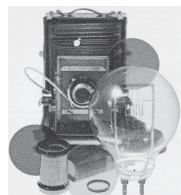
Chipmunk



Red Fox



Raccoon



Photography USA 15c

Photography



Viking Missions

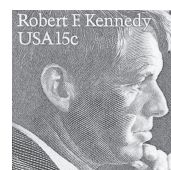


Andrea del Verrocchio National Gallery
Christmas USA 15c

*Madonna and Child
with Cherubim*



Hobby Horse



Robert F. Kennedy

1979



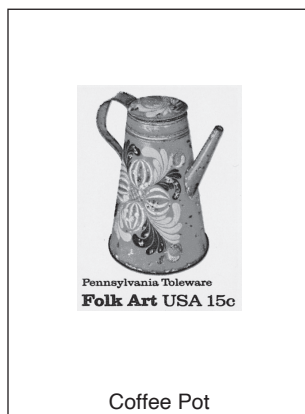
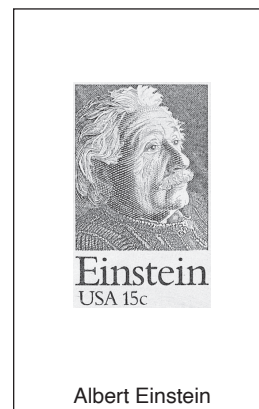
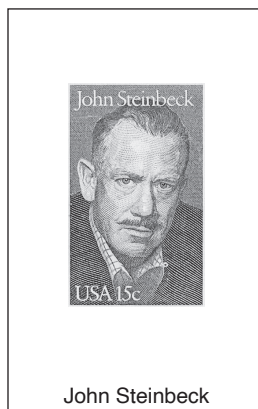
International Year of the Child – 15¢ Issued in honor of the International Year of the Child, this stamp looks to children as the key for peace in tomorrow's world.

John Steinbeck – 15¢ Honors the novelist on the 77th anniversary of his birth. Steinbeck's literary works include *East of Eden* and *The Grapes of Wrath*. He was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1962.

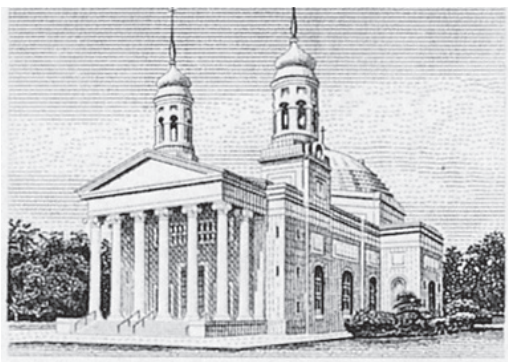
Albert Einstein – 15¢ This stamp marks the 100th anniversary of Albert Einstein's birth, and commemorates the Nobel Prize winner's special and general theories of relativity.

Pennsylvania Toleware – 15¢ This block of four Folk Art stamps features various pieces of Pennsylvania toleware. French for "painted tin," toleware is still made by the Pennsylvania Dutch, exactly as it was nearly 300 years ago.

1979



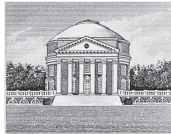
1979



American Architecture – 15¢ Another se-tenant issue, this block of four illustrates an example of early American architecture. Each of the buildings was selected for its enduring beauty, strength, and usefulness. Pictured are the Philadelphia Exchange, the Boston State House, the Baltimore Cathedral, and the Rotunda of the University of Virginia, which was designed by Thomas Jefferson.

Endangered Flora – 15¢ This se-tenant issue showcases four of the more than 1,700 plant species likely to become extinct if threats to their existence are not removed. These stamps were issued during the National Convention of the Garden Clubs of America.

1979



Jefferson 1763-1826 Virginia Rotunda
Architecture USA 15c

Virginia Rotunda



Luttrell 1764-1829 Baltimore Cathedral
Architecture USA 15c

Baltimore Cathedral



Bulfinch 1763-1844 Boston State House
Architecture USA 15c

Boston State House



Strickland 1788-1854 Philadelphia Exchange
Architecture USA 15c

Philadelphia Exchange



Trillium



Broadbean



Wallflower



Evening Primrose

1979-1980

Seeing Eye Dogs – 15¢ Issued to honor the service of guide dogs to the blind and released during the 50th anniversary of the first guide dog program in the United States.

Special Olympics – 15¢ Created by the Joseph P. Kennedy Jr., Foundation, the Special Olympics is the world's largest program of athletic competition and sports training for the mentally retarded. Its theme, "You Can," gives people with special needs a chance to develop their skills and to grow both mentally and physically.

John Paul Jones – 15¢ This stamp marks the 200th anniversary of the 1779 sea battle between John Paul Jones' *Bonhomme Richard* and the HMS *Serapis* off Northern England. It was during this famous battle that Jones uttered the long-remembered words, "I have not yet begun to fight!"

Christmas – Traditional – 15¢ Gerard David's painting *The Rest on the Flight into Egypt*, is the subject of this Christmas issue. During the later part of his career, artist Gerard David painted several different versions of this scene. The one

on this stamp hangs in the National Gallery of Art, Washington, DC.

Christmas – Contemporary – 15¢ This contemporary Christmas issue depicts a gingerbread Santa Claus ornament and celebrates the spirit and joy of the season.

Vietnam Veterans – 15¢ Issued to honor the brave soldiers who fought in the Vietnam War, this stamp pictures the ribbon of the Vietnam Service Medal.

W.C. Fields – 15¢ This stamp was issued to commemorate the 100th birthday of W.C. Fields, the famously cantankerous star of Hollywood classics like *Never Give a Sucker an Even Break*, and *The Bank Dick*.

Benjamin Banneker – 15¢ Honors the self-educated mathematician and astronomer who correctly predicted a solar eclipse in 1789. The following year, Banneker was appointed to the committee in charge of planning Washington, DC. He was the first black man to be appointed to such a committee.

1979-1980



Seeing Eye Dog



Special Olympics



John Paul Jones



Virgin and Child



Santa Ornament



Vietnam Veterans

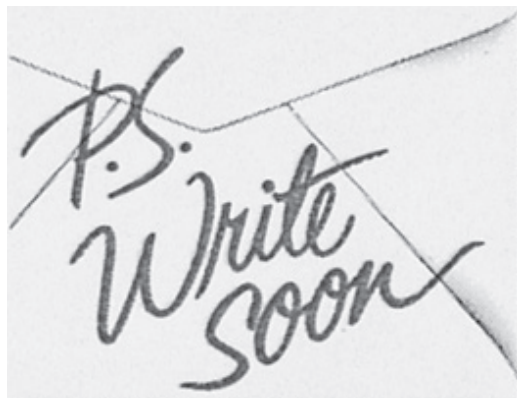


W.C. Fields



Benjamin Banneker

1980



Letter Writing – 15¢ These stamps commemorate National Letter Writing Week, which was held February 24 through March 1, 1980. It was the first time that a sheet of stamps with three sets of vertical pairs was issued by the United States. Each stamp focuses attention on the importance of letter writing, and some are inscribed with such statements as “Letters Preserving Memories” and “Letters Shape Opinions.”

Two Violins – 3.5¢ Preceded by the harp and the lyre thousands of years ago, the violin is the best known and most widely used of all orchestral instruments.

“B” Definitive – 18¢ The Postal Service really kept its patrons on their toes in 1981 with two postal increases – one in March and another in November. Printed shortly after the 1978 rate change, the “B” stamps were put in storage until they were needed in 1981. The same stylized eagle used on the “A” stamp was also used for this stamp. The only difference between the two stamps was the background color – instead of orange, a rich purple was chosen. This issue was printed in sheets (perforated 11 x 10.5) and also in booklets perforated 10. On March 22, 1981, the rate officially changed from 15¢ to 18¢.

1980



Preserve Memories



Lift Spirits



Shape Opinions



Write Soon



Write Soon



Write Soon



Violins
(coil)



"B" Eagle



"B" Eagle
(booklet)



"B" Eagle
(coil)

1980



Frances Perkins – 15¢ Appointed by Franklin D. Roosevelt, Frances Perkins headed the Department of Labor from 1933 to 1945. In doing so, Perkins became the first woman to serve on a presidential cabinet.

Emily Bissell – 15¢ This stamp honors Emily Bissell, crusader against tuberculosis and the woman who introduced Christmas seals into the United States.

Veterans Administration – 15¢ Marks the 50th anniversary of the Veterans Administration. The administration's services include medical care, educational services, low-cost loans, and group life insurance for veterans.

Coral Reefs – 15¢ This se-tenant issue of four stamps features corals found in waters of the United States, its territories, and its possessions. The stamps were issued in Charlotte Amalie, the capital of the US Virgin Islands.

1980



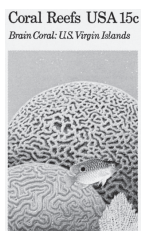
Frances Perkins



Emily Bissell



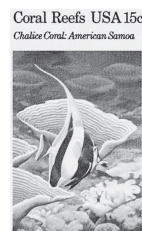
Veterans Administration



Brain Coral



Elkhorn Coral

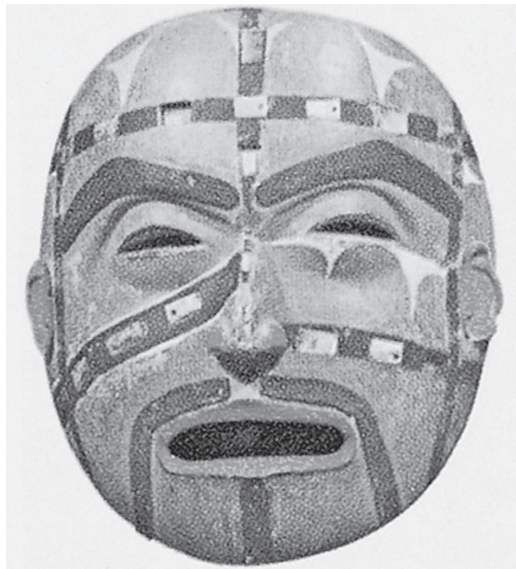


Chalice Coral



Finger Coral

❧ 1980 ❧



Organized Labor – 15¢ Celebrates the American labor movement and its founders. Some of the objectives of the movement include free public education, child labor laws, an eight-hour workday, and payment of wages in legal tender.

Edith Wharton – 15¢ This stamp honors writer Edith Wharton, who received a Pulitzer Prize for her book *The Age of Innocence*.

Indian Masks – 15¢ This se-tenant block of four was issued as part of the American Folk Art Series. Each stamp features a different carved mask, representing the craftsmanship of the tribes of the Pacific Northwest coastal region.

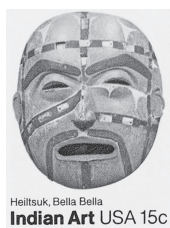
1980



Organized Labor



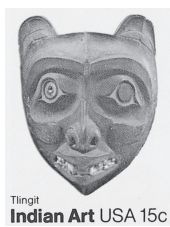
Edith Wharton



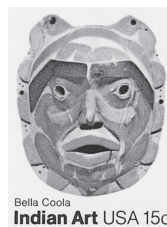
Bella Bella



Chilkat Tlingit

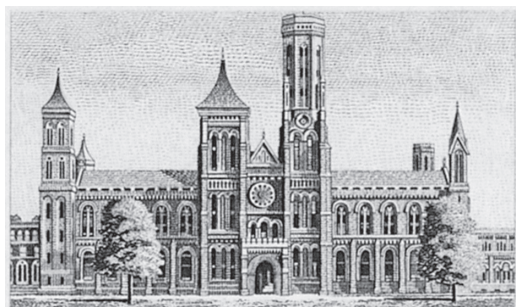


Tlingit



Bella Coola

1980



Renwick 1818-1895 Smithsonian Washington

Architecture USA 15c

American Architecture – 15¢ This se-tenant block of four shows important American buildings dating from the 19th century. The stamps illustrate the Smithsonian Institute, the Trinity Church, the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, and the Lyndhurst.

Christmas – Traditional – 15¢ This stamp illustrates the Madonna and Child taken from a stained glass window in the Bethlehem Chapel in Washington's National Cathedral. The stamp was issued at the Cathedral.

Christmas – Contemporary – 15¢ This issue depicts a warm family home on Christmas morning. It serves as a reminder of the importance of family during the holiday season.

1980



Renwick B38 B95 Smithsonian Washington
Architecture USA 15c

Smithsonian



Richardson B38 B86 Trinity Church Boston
Architecture USA 15c

Trinity Church



Furness B39 B12 Penn Academy Philadelphia
Architecture USA 15c

Penn Academy



AJ Davis B03 B92 Lyndhurst Tarrytown NY
Architecture USA 15c

Lyndhurst



Christmas USA 15c

Madonna and Child



USA 15c
Season's Greetings

Wreath and Toys

1981-1985

Igor Stravinsky – 2¢ Born near St. Petersburg, Russia, Igor Stravinsky became a world-renowned composer, best known for orchestrating the ballets of Sergei Diaghilev. In 1945, he became an American citizen.

Carl Schurz – 4¢ Carl Schurz immigrated to America from Germany in 1852, in hopes of finding “a new, free world...” He devotedly served his adopted country as a US senator, ambassador to Spain, secretary of the Interior, and an advocate of equal rights for Blacks and Indians.

Sinclair Lewis – 14¢ Sinclair Lewis was the first American novelist ever to be awarded the prestigious Nobel Prize for Literature. An imaginative and creative man, he would sometimes sell his plots to Jack London for \$5-15 apiece.

Rachel Carson – 17¢ A naturalist, biologist, and zoologist, Rachel Carson devoted her studies to making people aware of pollutants, acid rain, and dangerous herbicides and pesticides. She argued that instead of saving our natural wealth, we were destroying it.

George Mason – 18¢ In 1776, George Mason drafted Virginia’s Constitution and Declaration of Rights, which served as a model for Jefferson’s Declaration of Independence. Although he opposed the US Constitution, he was instrumental in adopting the Bill of Rights.

Ralph Bunche – 20¢ During the 1949 Palestine conflicts, Ralph Bunche acted as a mediator between the Israeli and Arab nations. For his service, he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1950 and became the first Black ever to receive this illustrious award.

Harry S. Truman – 20¢ In an unexpected victory, Harry S. Truman became our country’s 33rd president. Although he had free “franking” privileges as president, he always kept a coil of

stamps in his desk to use on any correspondence that was personal.

John Audubon – 22¢ This American naturalist and painter is best known for his detailed pictures of birds in their natural habitat. The portrait on this stamp is actually a detail from a larger painting done by Audubon’s son, John Woodhouse Audubon.

Frank Laubach – 30¢ A missionary and an educator, Frank Laubach won international recognition for teaching illiterate people to read and write. His charts using symbols to represent phonetic sounds were developed for more than 300 languages.

Robert Millikan – 37¢ In 1923, Robert Millikan was awarded the Nobel Prize for isolating the electron and measuring its charge, and also for his work on photoelectricity. He later was awarded the Presidential Medal of Merit for his work on jet and propulsion systems during World War II.

Lillian Gilbreth – 40¢ After earning her Ph.D. in industrial psychology, Lillian Gilbreth and her husband formed a consulting engineer firm. They pioneered the use of movies in their time and motion studies and were among the first to stress the importance of the human element in the work place.

Chester Nimitz – 50¢ In 1941, Chester Nimitz became commander-in-chief of the Pacific Fleet. His strategy of “island hopping” – bypassing smaller Japanese bases to concentrate on more crucial ones – not only saved lives but shortened the war considerably.

Everett Dirksen – 15¢ This stamp was issued in memory of Everett Dirksen, a US senator who served as Senate minority leader from 1960 to 1969.

Whitney Moore Young Jr. – 15¢ Another in the Black Heritage Series, this stamp honors important civil rights leader Whitney Moore Young Jr.

1981-1985



Igor Stravinsky



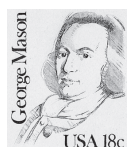
Carl Schurz



Sinclair Lewis



Rachel Carson



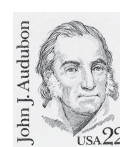
George Mason



Ralph Bunche



Harry S. Truman



John Audubon



Frank Laubach



Robert Millikan



Lillian Gilbreth



Chester Nimitz



Everett Dirksen



Whitney Moore Young Jr.

1981

Since 1869, when a horse and two eagles appeared on the pictorial issues, America's wildlife has become a popular topic for US postage. Today, over 200 stamps picture mammals, birds, insects, and fish. However, it wasn't until the Postal Service issued the wildlife booklet that any of the stamps focused on endangered species.

During the past 2,000 years, the world has lost over 100 species of mammals alone and two thirds of these losses have occurred since the mid-1800s. In addition to those that are already extinct, many are slowly vanishing. Alarmed by the potential of man's power to destroy the Earth's wildlife, pioneer conservationists began to take action. Believing they had a responsibility to conserve natural resources for future generations, they established sanctuaries and wrote laws to regulate hunting.

Today, numerous sanctuaries, also called preserves, reserves, and refuges provide protection and space needed for large predators and grass-dwelling herds. The Endangered Species Act makes it illegal to hunt, trap, or collect those species which are threatened with extinction and also restricts the use of government funds for projects which will adversely affect their environment.

At one time, the animals pictured on these stamps freely roamed throughout North America. However, unrestricted hunting pushed their populations to near extinction. Many, though, like the white-tailed deer, have been restored through conservation efforts.

Bighorn Sheep – 18¢ Found in the remote crags and cliffs of North America's mountains, the Bighorn Sheep was once sought by trophy hunters for its magnificent curved horns. Its superb sense of balance allows it to leap from rock to rock and effortlessly climb sheer cliffs.

Puma – 18¢ This large, graceful cat was once considered a menace to ranchers and farmers and was hunted mainly for bounty or sport. In many areas, it has been eliminated from its natural habitat and now survives in wildlife preserves.

Harbor Seal – 18¢ Known as the "spotted or common seal," this playful animal is found along coastlines of the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. Today, international laws protect it from being killed

merely for its pelts.

Bison – 18¢ Three centuries ago, more than 200- million bison roamed the American plains. Slaughtered unmercifully by the white man, they neared extinction in mid-19th century. Today about 30,000 live on government preserves.

Brown Bear – 18¢ The brown bear is the largest meat-eating animal in North America. It has an excellent sense of smell, though its sight and hearing are weak. Commonly found in zoos, they can also be seen performing in circuses and carnivals.

Polar Bear – 18¢ Protected by international agreements since 1973, the polar bear may only be hunted by local populations using traditional weapons. Included in this agreement are the Eskimos, who hunt the semi-aquatic mammal for its hide and flesh.

Elk – 18¢ Called the *wapiti* by the Shawnee Indians, the elk is the second-largest deer, exceeded in size only by the moose. Prized for its large antlers, it was once threatened with extinction. Today, the elk live in the high alpine meadows of the Rocky Mountains.

Moose – 18¢ The largest member of the deer family prefers open, isolated areas free of human development. Moose are frequently found in forests and swamps from Maine to Alaska and South of the Rockies to Wyoming.

Whitetailed Deer – 18¢ Unrestricted hunting had reduced the population of this important game animal by the mid-1900s, but conservation efforts restored it. Its name refers to the white underside of its tail, which can be seen when the animal is alarmed or running.

Pronghorned Antelope – 18¢ One of the fastest mammals in North America, the prongbuck, as it is sometimes called, can reach speeds of more than 45 miles per hour and leap more than 20 feet in a single bound. Many now live in game preserves found on the open grasslands of the West.

1981



Bighorn Sheep



Puma



Harbor Seal



Bison



Brown Bear



Polar Bear



Elk



Moose



Whitetailed Deer



Pronghorned Antelope

❧ 1981-1983 ❧

Flag over Seacoast – 18¢ In 1893, Katharine Lee Bates traveled to the top of Pikes Peak in Colorado. The view inspired her to write a poem entitled “America the Beautiful.” Three stamps in the Flag Series of 1981 picture scenes from the poem with the corresponding line along the bottom.

Flag over Supreme Court – 20¢ The USPS issued its first flag definitive stamp in 1963. This 1981 Flag over Supreme Court stamp continues the pattern of featuring the Stars and Stripes waving over a significant building. The stamp pictures James Earle Fraser’s statue *Contemplation of Justice*, located to the left of the staircase of the Supreme Court building.

Omnibus – 1¢ A forerunner of today’s buses, the omnibus was used in US cities during the late 1800s for public mass transportation. These large, horse-drawn wagons were developed in Paris and were used throughout France as early as the 1830s.

Handcar – 3¢ The small, manually operated handcar was extremely important to the early railroads. One or two men pushed the teeter-totter bar up and down, activating the gears, and propelling the cart along at a 10-mph pace. Not only did it carry men and supplies needed by workers and repair crews, but it was also used by safety inspectors.

Motorcycle – 5¢ In 1855, Gottlieb Daimler, a German engineer, created the first motorcycle by attaching a four-stroke piston to a wooden bicycle frame. For years, his invention remained experimental, but with continued improvements it became a useful and dependable vehicle. Today, it is used for sport and as an inexpensive, efficient means of transportation.

Sleigh – The antique sleigh pictured on this stamp was popular throughout the US in the late 19th

century. A thing of the past in America, it is still used in those parts of the world which almost constantly have snow, such as Siberia and Lapland.

Electric Auto – 17¢ A popular model from 1890 to 1910, the electric auto was quiet, clean, and easy to operate. At top speed, it could travel about 20 miles per hour and had to have its batteries changed or recharged every 50 miles. Its popularity faded, however, when the gasoline-powered car proved to be superior. Not only could one drive it faster and for longer, but it was also less expensive to operate.

Surrey – 18¢ This doorless, four-wheeled carriage was widely used as a family vehicle throughout the late 19th and early 20th century. Its fringed top was popularized in Rodgers and Hammerstein’s song “The Surrey with the Fringe on Top.”

Fire Pumper – 20¢ Following the 1666 fire of London, people began to think seriously about fire prevention and ways to successfully combat fire – one ingenious solution was the fire pumper. By pushing long handles up and down to build up pressure, firemen were able to spray water through a hose. These pumps were pulled by volunteers up until the mid-1800s; at that time, horses took over the job of pulling the heavy vehicles, and career firemen manned the pumps.

American Red Cross Centennial – 18¢ Founded by Clara Barton in 1881 and chartered by Congress in 1901, the American Red Cross runs the world’s largest donor blood service.

Savings and Loan Sesquicentennial – 18¢ This stamp was issued to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Savings and Loan Association. In the United States, the Savings and Loan was developed in the early 19th century to make loans to members for the purchase of homes.

1981-1893



Flag over Seacoast



Supreme Court Flag



Supreme Court Flag
(coil)



Omnibus



Handcar



Motorcycle



Sleigh



Electric Auto



Surrey



Fire Pumper



American Red Cross – 100 yrs.



Savings and Loan – 150 yrs.

1981

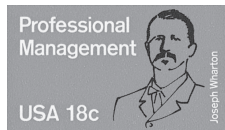
Professional Management – 18¢ In a salute to professional management, this stamp pictures Joseph Wharton, the founder of the Wharton Business School – the first collegiate level institution dedicated strictly to business education.

Preservation of Wildlife Habitats – 18¢ In an effort to draw support for the preservation of wildlife habitats, this series of four stamps illustrates the four habitats threatened by man and man's progress. Pictured are a great blue heron (wetland habitats), a badger (grassland habitats), a grizzly bear (mountain habitats), and a ruffed grouse (woodland habitats).

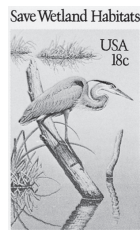
International Year of the Disabled – 18¢ In 1976, the United Nations passed a resolution establishing 1981 as the International Year of the Disabled. That year, great strides were made to adapt the world to the needs of the handicapped.

Edna St. Vincent Millay – 18¢ This stamp honors the late American poet and graduate of Vassar College. Many of her poems are full of the romance and independence of youth. In 1922, she was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for poetry.

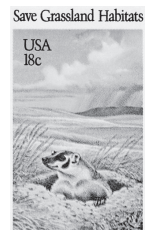
1981



Professional Management



Great Blue Heron



Badger



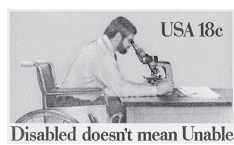
Save Mountain Habitats

Grizzly Bear



Save Woodland Habitats

Ruffed Grouse



International Year of the Disabled



Edna St. Vincent Millay

1981

American Architecture – 18¢ This block of four stamps pays tribute to American architecture, and illustrates the beauty and diversity of four architects' work. The stamps show the New York University Library by Stanford White, the Biltmore House by Richard Morris Hunt, the Palace of the Arts by Bernard Maybeck and the National Farmers' Bank by Louis Sullivan.

Babe Didrikson Zaharias – 18¢ Honors the great female athlete who set new Olympic and world records in the javelin throw and won more than 50 major golf tournaments. Zaharias made one of the greatest comebacks in sports history – winning the National Women's Open and the Tam O'Shanter All-American golf tournaments after major cancer surgery. In 1950, the Associated Press named Zaharias the most outstanding woman athlete of the first half of the 20th century.

Bobby Jones – 18¢ One of the greatest American golfers in the history of the sport, Bobby Jones entered his first national golf championship at the age of 14. During his career, Jones won four US

Open championships and finished second four more times. He also won three of the four British Open championships in which he competed.

Frederic Remington – 18¢ Known for his action-filled paintings and sculptures of the Old West, Frederic Remington also served as a war correspondent during the Spanish-American War.

James Hoban – 20¢ Fourteen years after construction was completed, British forces burned the White House. James Hoban personally supervised the rebuilding process.

Battle of Yorktown and Virginia Capes – 18¢ This pair of stamps recalls the final battle of the American Revolution. After the British moved into Virginia, George Washington and the Comte de Rochambeau combined their French and American armies. With the help of the French fleet, they joined Lafayette and attacked Yorktown. The British commander, Cornwallis, was forced to surrender, bringing to an end the war in America.

1981



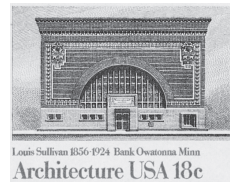
NY University Library



Biltmore House



Palace of the Arts



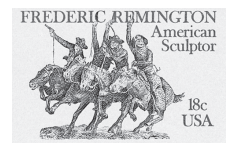
National Farmers' Bank



Babe Didrikson Zaharias



Bobby Jones



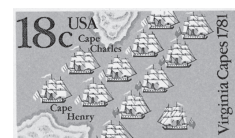
Frederic Remington



James Hoban



Battle of Yorktown



Battle of the Virginia Capes

1981-1982

Christmas – Traditional – 20¢ This stamp depicts the Madonna and Child by the artist Botticelli. In the late 1490s, Botticelli became so moved by the preaching of the Italian friar Savonarola that he burned many of his non-religious works and painted only religious themes from then forward.

Christmas – Contemporary – 20¢ This contemporary Christmas issue illustrates two of the most popular Christmas toys, a felt teddy bear and a sled.

John Hanson – 20¢ Celebrates the memory of the man some call the “first president of the United States.” Hanson became president of the Continental Congress – an office he held for one year – prior to George Washington’s election as president under the Constitution.

Desert Plants – 20¢ This series of stamps pays tribute to the species of plants that have adapted over the eons to withstand the harsh environment of the

desert. Surviving through extremes of temperature and very little rainfall, the cactus has adapted and flourished. Pictured are the barrel cactus, agave, beavertail cactus, and the saguaro. The latter is the largest cactus native to North America – often reaching a height of 60 feet and a weight of more than three tons.

“C” Definitive – 20¢ On November 1, 1981, a second postal increase to 20¢ went into effect. Once again, the stylized eagle design was used and the background color was changed to brown. In addition to being printed in sheets and coils, the stamp was also printed in booklet format.

Bighorn Sheep – 20¢: Rather than reprint the entire 1981 wildlife pane with the rate change, the USPS chose to print only the bighorn sheep with the 20¢ denomination, the color was changed from dark brown to dark blue. However, these were the only two changes made. This particular issue was printed only in booklet form.

1981-1982



Madonna and Child



Teddy Bear and Sleigh



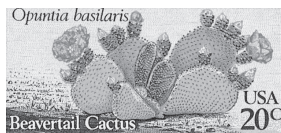
John Hanson



Barrel Cactus



Agave



Beavertail Cactus



Saguaro



"C" Eagle



"C" Eagle
(coil)



"C" Eagle
(booklet)



Bighorn Sheep
(booklet)

1982

Love – 20¢ In response to public demand for a new “Love” stamp, this issue was designed by artist Mary Faulconer of New York City. Faulconer used flowers to give greater feeling to the love theme.

Library of Congress – 20¢ This stamp shows the Thomas Jefferson Building, the oldest of the structures that make up the Library of Congress complex. When the complex was completed in 1897, it was the largest and costliest library in the entire world.

Consumer Education – 20¢ During her husband’s term as president, Rosalyn Carter began her consumer education program to teach Americans how to create a budget and stretch their shopping dollars. Late in 1978, she began petitioning for a consumer education stamp to make the public more aware of her program. Because she mainly targeted minorities, such as Hispanics and African-Americans, she wanted two stamps printed – one in English and another in Spanish. The stamp’s production was held up for several years while the Postal Service and the Citizen’s Stamp Advisory Committee deliberated as to whether the US should

begin printing stamps bilingually. Eventually, it was decided that the stamp would be released in English. The stamp was issued in 1982, after President Carter had left office.

Horatio Alger – 20¢ Introduced on the 150th anniversary of Horatio Alger’s birth, this issue recognizes Alger’s contribution to 19th-century children’s literature and depicts some of his “rags-to-riches” characters.

Aging Together – 20¢ Issued in May 1982, during “Older Americans Month,” this stamp honors our older citizens and recognizes them as highly valued Americans who have enriched society with their wealth of experience.

Architecture – 20¢ Issued to honor the entire architectural profession, these four stamps feature unique architecture by four 20th-century architects. They are Frank Lloyd Wright’s Fallingwater, Mies van der Rohe’s Illinois Institute of Technology, the Gropius House, by Walter Gropius, and Eero Saarinen’s Dulles Airport.

1982



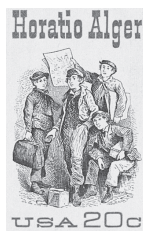
Love



Library of Congress



Consumer Education
(coil)



Horatio Alger



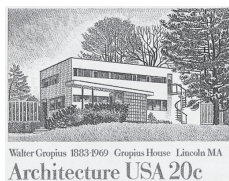
Aging Together



Fallingwater



Illinois Institute of Technology



Gropius House



Dulles Airport

1982-1983

Francis of Assisi – 20¢ This stamp honors the man who renounced material goods and family ties and embraced a life of poverty. St. Francis is remembered for his love of nature and all creatures on Earth. He founded the Franciscan Order in 1209. The order is still in existence today.

Ponce de León – 20¢ Honors the man known by legend to have searched for the Fountain of Youth. In truth, he conquered Puerto Rico, becoming governor in 1509. He also discovered the Gulf Stream and what he believed to be an island – Florida.

Christmas – Traditional – 20¢ This issue features a painting of the Madonna and Child by artist Tiepolo. This 18th-century masterpiece currently hangs in the National Gallery of Art in Washington, DC.

Balloons – 20¢ Celebrating the 200th anniversary of the first balloon flight, this set of four was released in both Albuquerque, New Mexico, and Washington, DC. The balloons pictured are the *Intrepid*, used

by the Union Army during the Civil War, modern hot air balloons, and the *Explorer II*, used by the National Geographic Society and the US Army.

Brooklyn Bridge – 20¢: Issued on the 100th anniversary of the opening of the Brooklyn Bridge, the first suspension bridge to use cables made of steel wire and pneumatic chambers for foundations. The bridge took 14 years to complete at a cost of \$9 million.

Babe Ruth – 20¢ Issued in conjunction with the 50th anniversary of baseball's All-Star Game, this stamp honors Babe Ruth. A baseball legend, Ruth played in the first All-Star Game in 1933.

Christmas – Traditional – 20¢ 1983 marked the sixth year in a row that the Madonna and Child were used on a Christmas stamp. This stamp is the second Christmas stamp to use a painting by Raphael in its design.

1982-1983



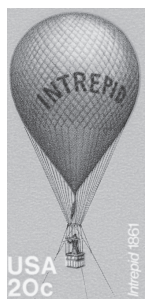
Francis of Assisi



Ponce de León



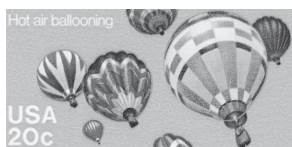
Madonna and Child



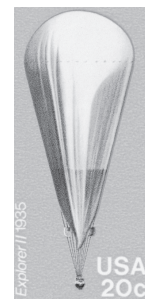
Intrepid



Balloons



Balloons



Explorer II



Brooklyn Bridge



Babe Ruth



*Niccolini-Cowper
Madonna*

❧ 1983-1984 ❧

Christmas – Contemporary – 20¢ Designed by John Berkley, this Christmas stamp shows a close-up view of that pudgy, jolly old elf with the twinkle in his eye – Santa Claus. However, this familiar concept of St. Nicholas is an American creation, first designed by cartoonist Thomas Nast. Previously, artists had depicted Santa Claus as a thin, serious-looking man who used one horse – instead of eight tiny reindeer – to travel on Christmas Eve.

LOVE – 20¢: With each new year, the “LOVE” stamp grows in popularity. Today, it is issued in larger quantities and for a longer period of time than any other regular US commemorative.

National Archives – 20¢ This stamp honors those who preserved the heritage of the United States at the National Archives. The National Archives contains many important public records and historical documents – all items of America’s past.

Louisiana World Exposition – 20¢ The Exposition opened in New Orleans on May 12, 1984, and carried the theme, “The World of Rivers – Fresh Water as a Source of Life.” The stamps show some of the many different creatures that depend on fresh water to live and must share its supply in order to survive.

Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp Act – 20¢: “Duck” stamps have become increasingly popular with stamp collectors, and 1984 marks the 50th anniversary of the of the Act’s passage. This issue features the design from the first duck stamp, issued in 1934.

Dogs – 20¢ This block of four stamps was issued to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the American Kennel Club. Designed by Roy Anderson, each stamp illustrates some of America’s most popular dog breeds.

1983-1984



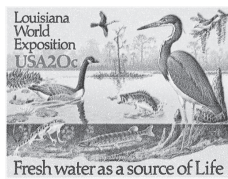
Santa Claus



Love



National Archives



Louisiana World Exposition



Waterfowl Preservation Act



Beagle and Boston Terrier



Retriever and Cocker Spaniel



Malamute and Collie



Coonhound and Foxhound

❧ 1984-1985 ❧

Christmas – Contemporary – 20¢: The contemporary Christmas stamp for 1984 was the result of the national competition for school children to design a stamp. Danny LaBoccetta, an 8-year-old from Jamaica, NY, drew a cheerful Santa with a sack of toys.

Jerome Kern – 22¢ Jerome Kern has been called the “King of the American Musical Stage.” He composed over 1,000 songs and 108 theatrical scores. He was twice the recipient of an Academy Award for music.

“D” Definitive – 22¢ Late in 1981, after the rate had changed from 18¢ to 20¢, the Bureau of Engraving and Printing printed this non-denominated “D” stamp in anticipation of the next change in rate. For nearly four years, some 6.6 billion stamps – printed in sheet, coil, and booklet form – awaited distribution. Their moment finally came when the new 22¢ rate was approved. Like the previous alphabet stamps, this issue pictured a stylized eagle, but was green in color.

Flag over Capitol – 22¢ Since the 1963 5¢ Flag over the White House issue, the USPS has continued to picture the American flag on its most commonly used stamp – the first-class definitive.

Printed in sheets, coils, and booklets, these stamps carry the majority of our nation’s mail. In fact, the Flag definitives are printed and sold in far greater quantity than any other US issues. This stamp was the first to be perforated on the BEP’s new Eureka perforator, which punched the sheets with perfect bullseye perforations.

Flag over Capitol – 22¢ Booklet. This was the first booklet the US ever issued that carried commemorative-sized stamps. The larger size allowed designer Frank Waslick to add to his original artwork. The size of the flag and the capitol remained the same, but the wings of the capitol were extended, and a flagpole and some Washington scenery were added.

Seashells – 22¢: This booklet was also another “first” – it was the first time the USPS had ever featured seashells on any of its postal products. Collected for their beauty and rarity, shells were once used as tools and currency. American Indians used shells, called wampum, for money. The more colorful the shell, the more valuable the wampum. Polished shells were also used for ornamental beadwork on their clothing. The five shells pictured on these stamps are all found in North American waters.

1984-1985



Season's Greetings

Santa Claus



Performing Arts USA

Jerome Kern



"D" Eagle



"D" Eagle
(coil)



"D" Eagle
(booklet)



Flag over Capitol
(coil)



Flag over Capitol
(booklet)



Frilled Dogwinkle



Reticulated Helmet



New England Neptune



Calico Scallop



Lightning Whelk

1985-1987

Tricycle – 6¢ Today the tricycle is used by children too young to ride a bicycle. When first introduced, adults rode it as well. Developed as an alternative to the French bicycle, which was high-seated, unstable, and difficult to get on and off from, the tricycle was much safer and just as fast.

Tow Truck – 8.5¢ Initially lightweight and lacking force, the tow truck has become larger, more powerful, and very useful. Today, with an estimated 350 million cars in the world – one-third of them in the United States, these trucks have become a necessity in the automobile industry. In the 1920s, when the truck pictured on this stamp was in use, mud was the number-one driving hazard.

Oil Wagon – 10.1¢ A common sight in rural areas and small towns during the 1890s, the oil wagon dispensed fuel (oil or kerosene) to individual homes for heating, cooking, and lighting lanterns. Drawn by a team of two or more horses, this vehicle was simply a large tank mounted on a wagon.

Pushcart – 12.5¢ Although the two-wheeled pushcart dates back thousands of years before the four-wheeled wagon was invented, the one pictured on this stamp was typically used in the early 20th century. These small stores on wheels sold everything from groceries and produce to clothing and hardware. Today, they are less frequently seen, but can still be found on city streets vending food and drink.

Dog Sled – 17¢ Commonly used in the early 1900s, dog sleds were often the only means of transporting supplies across the frozen tundras. Although they are still used today in Alaska, Northern Canada, and

parts of Russia, they are more commonly seen in the popular sport of racing. The sleds, which can be up to 13 feet long, are pulled by teams of 10 dogs, and can carry up to 1,000 pounds.

Bread Wagon – 25¢ Used in the late 19th century, the bread wagon delivered commercially baked bread to individual homes and grocery stores. Although commercial bakeries had been established as early as 1640, most baking was still done in the home until the early 1900s.

Omnibus – 1¢ The re-engraved version had a larger numeral “1”, while the central design was made smaller. The “USA” came after the value instead of preceding it, and the cent mark entirely disappeared.

Winter Special Olympics – 22¢ Founded in 1968 by Eunice Kennedy Shriver and the Chicago Park District, the Special Olympics were officially recognized by the International Olympic Committee in 1988.

Love – 22¢ This colorful LOVE stamp was designed by Corita Kent and issued in Hollywood, California.

AMERIPEX 86 – 22¢ Held in Chicago, Illinois, AMERIPEX 86 was the largest philatelic exhibition ever held in North America. Over 150,000 people visited the exhibition, and over 50 countries participated.

World War I Veterans – 22¢ More than 8 million soldiers and 13 million civilians lost their lives during the “Great War.” New technologies, which changed the face of warfare, raised casualty numbers beyond that of any previous conflict.

1985-1987

Tricycle 1880s
6 USA



Tricycle

Tow Truck 1920s
8.5 USA



Tow Truck

Oil Wagon 1890s
10.1 USA



Oil Wagon

Pushcart 1880s
12.5



Pushcart

Dog Sled 1920s
17 USA



Dog Sled

Bread Wagon 1880s
25 USA



Bread Wagon

Omnibus 1880s
1 USA



Omnibus



22 USA
Winter Special Olympics

Winter Special Olympics



Love

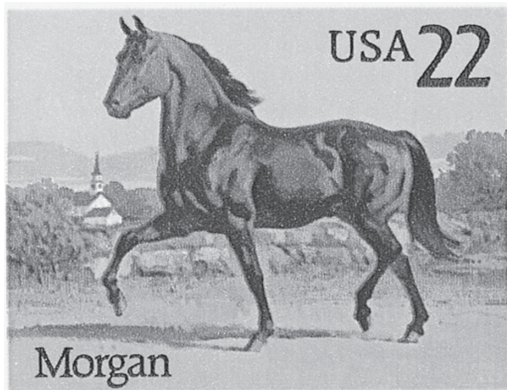


AMERIPEX 86



World War I Veterans

1985



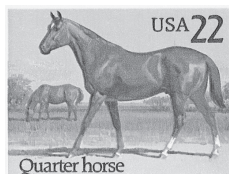
Horses – 22¢ First domesticated by nomadic peoples in the third millennium BC, the horse was brought to the new world by the Spanish in the 1500s.

Help End Hunger – 22¢ This issue calls attention to the need for all American to aid in ending hunger in our country as well as around the world.

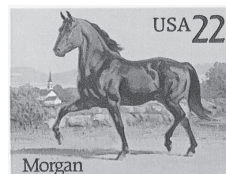
Christmas – Traditional – 22¢ The religious Christmas issue for 1985 features the 15th-century *Genoa Madonna* by Luca della Robbia.

Christmas – Contemporary – 22¢ Popular during Christmas, the poinsettia's petals are actually brightly colored leaves which surround a cluster of yellow flowers.

1985



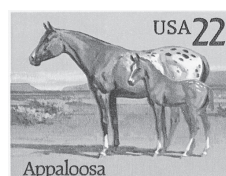
Quarter Horse



Morgan



Saddlebred



Appaloosa



Help End Hunger USA 22

Help End Hunger



Genoa Madonna



Season's Greetings USA 22

Poinsettia Plants

❧ 1986-1987 ❧

Margaret Mitchell – 1¢ Margaret Mitchell's book, *Gone with the Wind* is the most widely read novel in history. It has been translated into 27 languages and published in 327 countries. In 1937, Mitchell received the Pulitzer Prize for Literature for her work, and the movie based on the book won nine academy awards.

Mary Lyon – 2¢ After raising the funds to establish a school which would provide higher education for women at an affordable cost, Mary Lyon founded the Mount Holyoke Female Seminary. Today, it is known as Mount Holyoke College and offers two years of general education in liberal arts and two years of concentrated studies in one of 24 academic areas.

Paul Dudley White – 3¢ A pioneer in the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of heart disease, Dr. Paul Dudley White laid the foundation for modern cardiology. His outstanding achievements won him the American Medical Association's distinguished service award and the Lasker award.

Father Flanagan – 4¢ In 1917, Father Edward Flanagan took in eight neglected and orphaned boys and began Father Flanagan's Boys Home. Today known as "Boys Town," it houses 450 boys and 20 girls and is a complete city with its own zip code, schools, churches, and recreational facilities. Presently, seventy-five additional "Boys Towns" have been established in eighteen states.

Hugo L. Black – 5¢ Appointed in 1937 as an associate justice, Hugo L. Black served on the US Supreme Court for 30 years. An eloquent speaker, he strongly supported government protection of civil rights. Experts state he was second only to John Marshall in his impact on the Constitution.

Red Cloud – 10¢ A young Sioux warrior and leader of his people, Red Cloud spent many of his early years fighting the westward advances of white men. After his removal as head of the Oglala Sioux, Red Cloud attempted to make peace with the government.

Mary Cassatt – 23¢ A familiar name among art lovers, Mary Cassatt is best known for her sensitive paintings of mothers and children. After attending Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts for four years, she studied painting in France, Italy, and Spain. Encouraged by Impressionists such as Monet, Renoir, and Degas, she remained in France until her death in 1926.

Jack London – 25¢ An opium smuggler, seal hunter, oyster pirate, and Klondike miner, Jack London had many colorful experiences upon which to base his books. Many of his stories and novels were autobiographical, drawn from his adventures as a miner in the Alaskan gold rush. He achieved instant success with his novel *Call of the Wild* and became the highest paid, most popular writer of his day.

Love – 22¢ This year's stamp of the popular Love Series features a bright-eyed, floppy-tailed cuddly puppy. It serves to remind us what cartoonist Charles Schultz wrote, "Happiness is a warm puppy."

Sojourner Truth – 22¢ Born into slavery, Isabella (as she was named) finally acquired her freedom and moved to New York City, where she found it nearly impossible to earn a living. In 1843, she changed her name to Sojourner Truth and began traveling, lecturing, and educating former slaves. She was considered one of the greatest orators of her time.

Republic of Texas – 22¢ In 1836, the Republic of Texas declared its independence from Mexico. In 1845, Texas became the 28th state of the Union.

Public Hospitals – 22¢ This stamp features New York's Bellevue Hospital Center, the oldest operational hospital in the country. In 1896, Bellevue celebrated its 250th anniversary. In 1736, Bellevue opened with a six-bed infirmary. Today, it is one of the largest hospitals in the United States.

1986-1987



Margaret Mitchell



Mary Lyon



Paul Dudley White



Father Flanagan



Hugo L. Black



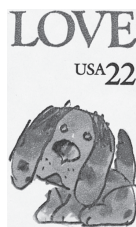
Red Cloud



Mary Cassatt



Jack London
(booklet)



Love



Sojourner Truth



Republic of Texas



Public Hospitals

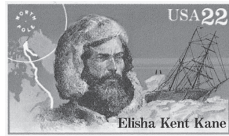
1986

Polar Explorers – 22¢ This block of four was issued to honor a number of men who played key roles in discovering and unlocking the North Pole. Elisha Kent Kane sailed his tiny ship *Advance* northward – perhaps close enough to see the North Pole itself. His stamp shows his ship sinking after being damaged by ice floes. Adolphus Greely endured devastating hardships to reach a point that was the closest any explorer got to the North Pole for 21 years. His stamp pictures him and two helpers pulling a sled across the ice. Robert E. Peary and Matthew Henson’s expeditionary assaults ended in triumph at the North Pole in 1909. Their stamp illustrates the two men trekking northward, using a dog sled. And Vilhjalmur Stefansson explored the Beaufort Sea – the last great unknown Arctic area. His stamp shows him carrying a harpoon and dragging his seal catch across the ice.

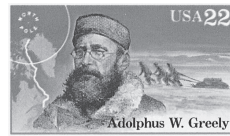
Statue of Liberty – 22¢ The day after the newly renovated Statue of Liberty was unveiled, this stamp was issued in New York. The French issued a similar stamp in Paris. Both issues commemorate the 100th anniversary of France’s gift to the United States – the Statue of Liberty.

Navajo Art – 22¢ This block of four stamps is one in the series of Folk Art commemoratives. The illustrations are based on actual Navajo blankets – three of which are housed in the Museum of the American Indian in New York City. The stamps were issued to coincide with the annual Navajo Nation Fair held at Window Rock, Arizona. Blanket weaving has been an important part of Navajo culture for centuries. To early tribes, each blanket was believed to possess spiritual characteristics and reflect the owner’s identity.

1986



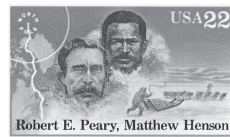
Elisha Kent Kane



Adolphus W. Greely



Vilhjalmur Stefansson



Robert E. Peary, Matthew Henson



Statue of Liberty



Navajo Art USA 22

Navajo Art



Navajo Art USA 22

Navajo Art



Navajo Art USA 22

Navajo Art



Navajo Art USA 22

Navajo Art

❧ 1986-1987 ❧

T.S. Eliot – 22¢ Between the First and Second World Wars, T.S. Eliot dominated the world of poetry. An inspiration to a great many poets, Eliot was awarded the Nobel Prize for literature and the British Order of Merit in 1948.

Woodcarved Figurines – 22¢ The woodcarved figurines in this block of four reflect the warmth and vitality of a lively Americana era. From the Colonial era through the 19th century, woodcarved figurines were even more widely used than today's billboards. Few merchants felt competitive without a three-dimensional representative of their products or services. One stamp features the Highlander, a figure used to sell tobacco in England. Another stamp depicts a graceful ship figurehead from the 1800s. The nautical figure on the third stamp promoted the shop of James Fale, a 19th-century nautical instrument maker in New Bedford, Massachusetts. The last stamp features the most prevalent and widely known figure of America's past – the cigar store Indian.

Michigan Statehood – 22¢ This stamp was issued to celebrate the 150th anniversary of Michigan

statehood. Known as the "Great Lakes State" and the "Wolverine State," Michigan was the 26th state admitted to the Union.

Love – 22¢ For the first time ever, the 1987 Love stamp – the sixth in the series – was issued in a size smaller than the large Love commemoratives of the past.

Jean Baptiste Pointe Du Sable – 22¢ This addition to the Black Heritage Series features Jean Baptiste Pointe Du Sable, the founder of the city of Chicago. Born in Haiti, Du Sable became an educated man who prospered in his Chicago surroundings as a general merchant, fur trader, and farmer. His trading post included a 40' x 20' dwelling – a size almost unheard of in the wilderness – 2 barns, a mill, a bakehouse, a poultry house, and large livestock holdings.

Enrico Caruso – 22¢ One of the greatest operatic tenors of all time, Caruso was the most famous member of the Metropolitan Opera's company of performers. He mastered at least 67 opera roles and had a repertoire of 500 songs.

1986-1987



T.S. Eliot



Highlander Figure



Ship Figurehead



Nautical Figure



Cigar Store Figure



Michigan Statehood



Love



Jean Baptiste Pointe Du Sable



Enrico Caruso

❧ 1985-1988 ❧

Girl Scouts – 22¢ Issued to celebrate the 75th anniversary of Girl Scouting in the United States, this issue pictures 14 different Girl Scouts badges. In 1912, Juliette Gordon Low founded the first Girl Scouts troop of 18 girls. By 1915, there were 5,000 members, by 1920 – 40,000. Since that time, over 52 million girls and adults have participated.

Conestoga Wagon – 3¢ Designed in the mid-1700s by the Pennsylvania Dutch, the Conestoga Wagon was originally used to transport produce to fairs and farmers markets. Its rounded, boatlike-shaped bed, high side walls, and wide-rimmed, oversized wheels made it ideal for traveling to new settlements in the Ohio valley. Contrary to popular belief, these wagons were never used by settlers traveling from Oregon to California.

Wheel Chair – 8.4¢ President Franklin Roosevelt probably used a wheelchair similar to the 1928 model pictured on this stamp. Developed in 1640 by a paraplegic German watchmaker, the first wheelchairs were cumbersome and expensive. In the early 20th century, it was redesigned to be more lightweight, less expensive, and easier to maneuver. Today, it allows thousands full participation in life, despite their physical disabilities.

Popcorn Wagon – 16.7¢ In 1893, C.C. Cretors, the father of the modern popcorn industry, created the first wagon to be used solely for vending popcorn. Painted in a rich red with gilt accents, brass trim, and beveled glass, this handsome wagon was the first totally self-contained unit as well.

United Way – 22¢ In 1887, a group of clergy recognized that sporadic collections were not enough to meet the needs of Denver's poor. With the help of volunteers, they were able to raise funds for food, shelter, and medical supplies. Today, with the aid of millions of volunteers, the United Way is the nation's largest and most active non-governmental community planning network.

Flag and Fireworks – 22¢ With the issue of this stamp, the USPS began using the gravure printing process once again to produce definitives. This process is more economical, and results in more colorful stamps. Although flags have appeared on stamps since 1869, this was the first time it was combined with fireworks and was also the first time it was pictured against a nighttime sky.

"E" Stamp – 25¢ Following the USPS's announcement that the first-class letter rate would change to 25¢, the non-denominated "E" stamp was issued. Responding to unfavorable comments concerning the "drab" appearance of the previous non-denominated issues, the Citizens Stamp Advisory Committee decided to link the stamp subject to the letter E. Shown from a moon's-eye view, the dramatic "Earth" design appears almost three dimensional. Printed in sheet, coil, and booklet form, this issue provided a colorful and attractive stamp with a popular topical theme – space.

Flag and Clouds – 25¢ The first definitive printed specifically to meet the new 25¢ rate pictured "Old Glory" waving against a light-blue sky filled with billowy cumulus clouds. Although flags have been featured as a major design element on stamps since 1957, many of them have been depicted flying over a national landmark. The Flag and Clouds stamp, the 15th in the Flag Series, was issued in sheet, coil, and booklet form.

Flag over Yosemite – 25¢ With the issuance of this stamp, the USPS went back to the established pattern of displaying the American flag over a national landmark. This time, instead of picturing a Washington building such as the Capitol or the White House, a natural landmark from the opposite coast was chosen. Half Dome, a granite formation which rises 4,850 feet above the Merced River, is exactly what its name implies: a massive rock dome which appears as though it was split by a colossal cleaver. Visitors frequently ask, "What happened to the other half?" (The answer: "No one knows.") Indian legends say it is a wife who turned to stone as she fled from her husband, and the dark streaks down the face of the rock are her tears.

Honeybee – 25¢ The honeybee is one of the world's most industrious and important insects. In the US alone, more than 3 million beehives produce over 20 million pounds of honey. These figures are even more astounding when one learns that to produce a mere pound of honey, more than 550 bees have to visit at least 2.5 million flowers! By gathering nectar to manufacture honey and wax, bees also provide a very important service – pollinating crops and fruit trees. More than 3.5 million acres of seed crops depend on pollination, and the hardworking honeybee does 90% of the work!

Pheasant – 25¢ Booklet single. Released only as a booklet of twenty, the pheasant stamp features one of America's most handsome birds – the male ring-necked pheasant. Until 1881, the "common pheasant," as it is sometimes referred to, was anything but. A native of China, the ring-neck was successfully introduced when Owen H. Denny, consul general at Shanghai, shipped 21 of the birds to his brother's farm in Corvallis, Oregon. Today, the ring-necked pheasant, with its colorful plumage of iridescent greens, purples, and copper is found throughout the northern continental US and lower Canada.

Grosbeak and Owl – 25¢ The Grosbeak/Owl booklet, like the pheasant booklet, was originally going to feature one bird. However, when the USPS saw artist Chuck Ripper's designs, they were so pleased they decided to use both of them. The booklet is arranged in a unique checkerboard pattern to accommodate both subjects. A member of the finch family, the rose-breasted grosbeak is found mainly in the Northeast. Like many of our other fine-feathered friends, the bright colors are restricted to the males. Nearly the same size as the grosbeak, the saw-whet owl is one of the smallest birds of prey. His fine-tuned senses, such as binocular-like eyesight and keen hearing, plus the fluffy plumage which allows him to swoop down silently on his prey, make him a superb hunter.

1985-1988



Girl Scouts



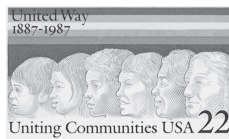
Conestoga Wagon



Wheel Chair



Popcorn Wagon



United Way



Flag and Fireworks



"E" Stamp



Flag and Clouds



"E" Stamp
(coil)



Flag over Yosemite
(coil)



Honeybee
(coil)



"E" Stamp
(booklet)



Pheasant



Grosbeak



Owl

1987

Friendship With Morocco – 22¢ This stamp was issued to commemorate the bicentennial of the Treaty of Peace between the United States and the Kingdom of Morocco. The treaty forms the cornerstone of US/Moroccan relations and predates any other pact still in force.

Drafting of the US Constitution – 22¢ In 1987, the United States celebrated the 200th anniversary of the drafting of the US Constitution. This booklet contains five commemorative stamps, each depicting a portion of the preamble to the Constitution.

Signing of the US Constitution – 22¢ Although

this stamp shows the preamble of the US Constitution and a hand signing, it was actually the fourth page that was signed. Since the preamble is the most recognizable section, the decision was made to include it in the stamp design.

Certified Public Accountants – 22¢ This stamp honors the achievements of certified public accountants. The American Institute of Certified Public Accountants has over 330,000 members serving in government, industry, education, and private practice. The organization has grown from the simple reporting of financial information to detailed consultation on all types of business decisions.

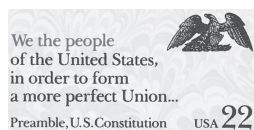
1987



Friendship with Morocco



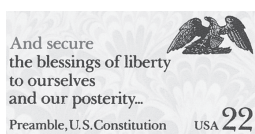
Drafting of the US Constitution



Drafting of the US Constitution



Drafting of the US Constitution



Drafting of the US Constitution



Drafting of the US Constitution

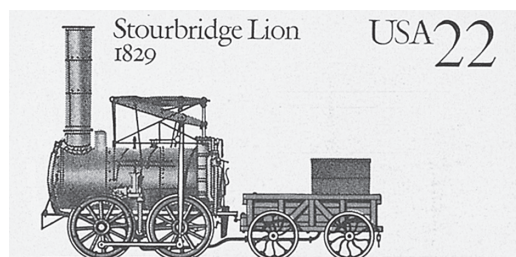


Signing of the US Constitution



Certified Public Accountants

1987



Locomotives – 22¢ This pane of five stamps was issued to pay tribute to the contributions of the different engines that sparked the railroad revolution in America. Depicted are: *Stourbridge Lion*, the first actual locomotive to run on tracks in America; *Best Friend of Charleston*, the first locomotive to pull a train in America; *John Bull*, the oldest complete engine preserved in the United States; *Brother Jonathan*, at one time the fastest locomotive in the world; and *Gowan & Marx*, at one time the most powerful of all locomotives.

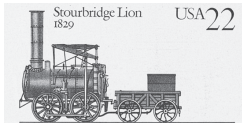
Christmas – Traditional – 22¢ The traditional Christmas issue features the Madonna and Child from a larger painting by the Italian Renaissance artist Giovanni Battista Moroni.

Christmas – Contemporary – 22¢ The contemporary Christmas issue was the first US stamp to have First Day ceremonies at Disneyland in Anaheim, California.

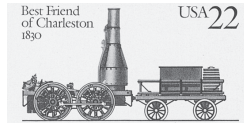
1988 Winter Olympics – 22¢ The alpine skier featured on this stamp is appropriate, as skiing and skating were the dominant sports at the 1988 Winter Olympics held in Calgary, Alberta, Canada.

Australia Bicentennial – 22¢ This issue commemorates the first European settlement in Australia. The cartoon figures of a bush-hatted koala bear and a red, white, and blue-bedecked American bald eagle symbolize the long cooperation and friendship between the US and Australia.

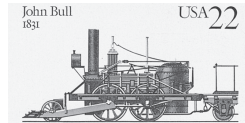
1987



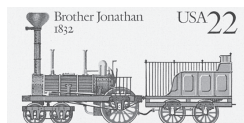
Stourbridge Lion



Best Friend of Charleston



John Bull



Brother Jonathon



Gowam & Marx



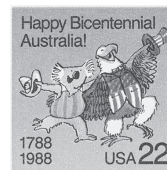
Madonna and Child



Christmas Ornaments



1988 Winter Olympics



Australia Bicentennial

1988



Cats – 22¢ Felines have been kept as pets since about 2500 BC. They are intelligent, freedom-loving creatures, with an extremely independent nature. This block of four stamps is a beautiful tribute which features eight different breeds, two on each stamp.

Francis Ouimet – 25¢ In 1913, at only 20 years of age, Francis Ouimet – “America’s first golfing hero” – became the first amateur and second native American to capture the US Open.

Love – 25¢ Love came up roses in 1988! Two Love stamps were issued, a 25¢ stamp for letters weighing up to one ounce and a 45¢ stamp for heavier wedding invitations and large greeting cards.

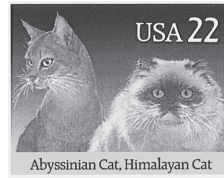
Christmas – Traditional – 25¢ Responding to complaints over the definitive-sized Christmas stamps issued in 1986 and 1987, the USPS issued the 1988 Christmas stamps in a new size, approximately 50% larger than the previous issues.

Christmas – Contemporary – 25¢ This stamp was first released in Berlin, New Hampshire, in honor of the songwriter Irving Berlin. The stamp’s winter design brings to mind Berlin’s holiday classic “White Christmas.”

1988



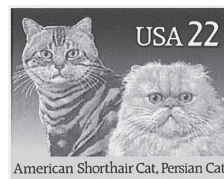
Siamese, Exotic Shorthair



Abyssinian, Himalayan



Maine Coon, Burmese



American Shorthair, Persian



Francis Ouimet



Love



Madonna and Child



Sleigh and Village Scene

1989

US Senate – 25¢ The Senate stamp features the carved gilt eagle and shield located above the vice president's chair in the Old Senate chamber. Although every Act of Congress must be approved by the House and Senate, the Senate has sole authority to ratify, by a two-thirds vote, any treaties proposed by the president.

Executive Branch & Inauguration of George Washington – 25¢ The proud features of George Washington dominate this stamp which honors the 200th anniversary of the Executive Branch of our government as well as his own inauguration. The image was taken from J.Q.A. Ward's bronze statue of Washington, which stands at New York's Federal Hall National Memorial, the site of the first inauguration of a US president.

South Dakota Statehood – 25¢ South Dakota, with its geographic diversity and beauty, is appropriately nicknamed the "Land of Infinite Variety." It is home to Mount Rushmore, the Missouri River, the Black Hills, and the infamous Badlands, and provides habitats for wildlife ranging from coyotes and ring-necked pheasants to antelopes and Chinook salmon.

Lou Gehrig – 25¢ Baseball's "Iron Horse," Lou Gehrig played an amazing 2,130 consecutive games for the New York Yankees, a record five years

longer than that of his nearest rival. When he was finally forced from the line-up, it was due to illness rather than his age.

America Issue – 25¢ Members of the Postal Union of the Americas and Spain (PUAS) joined to dedicate an international series of stamps. The series was designed to familiarize the people of the member nations with one another. The first issues honor the Native Americans who existed prior to Columbus's arrival in the New World. The carved figure on the stamp is from the Mimbres, a Southwest Indian culture.

Christmas – Contemporary – 25¢ The contemporary Christmas stamp features an antique toy sleigh, brimming with brightly wrapped presents. Also issued in both booklet and sheet form, this is the first time a US stamp has been printed by two different institutions. The Bureau of Engraving and Printing produced the booklet. The sheet was produced by the American Bank Note Company.

Love – 25¢ This is the ninth issue of the Love Series. The love stamps are very popular for use on wedding invitations, Valentines, and other love-type letters. They were produced in both sheet and booklet form in 1990.

1989



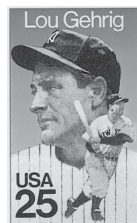
US Senate



Executive Branch
Washington's Inauguration



South Dakota Statehood



Lou Gehrig



American Issue



Sleigh and Presents



Love



Love
(booklet)

1990

Ida B. Wells – 25¢ The thirteenth stamp in the Black Heritage Series honors Ida B. Wells, who was born a slave in 1862. She devoted her entire life to educating people about the horrors of racial discrimination. In 1909, she helped found the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Wyoming Statehood – 25¢ The centennial of Wyoming statehood is celebrated with a stamp featuring the Grand Teton Mountains. The picture of majestic mountains rising up from a field of wildflowers was taken from the painting *High Mountain Meadows* by native artist Conrad Schwiering.

Classic Films – 25¢ This block of four stamps honors classic films from Hollywood's golden era. The stamps resemble miniature movie posters with bright, glossy colors. Each of the four films featured received Academy Award nominations in 1940.

Marianne Moore – 25¢ During her lifetime, poetess Marianne Moore was the recipient of the most distinguished literary awards the US had to offer. She has been called the "first lady of poetry," and won the 1952 Pulitzer Prize for poetry. The stamp is the eighth in the Literary Arts Series.

1990



Ida B. Wells



Wyoming Statehood



The Wizard of Oz



Gone With The Wind



Marianne Moore



Beau Geste



Stagecoach

1991-1995

Steam Carriage – 4¢: The 1886 Steam Carriage was one of the earliest self-propelled vehicles. The body consisted of a wide wooden framework mounted on top of a horizontal boiler barrel. Shallow water tanks were placed on either side, forming bench seats that provided enough room for 10 passengers. This novelty never gained popularity, however, due to the fact that it was noisy, dirty, and uncomfortable.

Canoe – 5¢: In the early 1700s, French fur traders learned from the Indians how to build bark canoes. These large, lightweight boats became a vital part of the fur trading industry and were used for almost 200 years by trappers, traders, and guides of the wild North American “Up Country.”

Lunch Wagon – 23¢: A forerunner of the 20th century diner, lunch wagons were used in the 1800s to deliver meals to the public in American cities. These enclosed wagons had a kitchen in the rear which was separated from the dining area by a window to pass food out to customers on the street. Another window was situated on one side so patrons could drive up and place an order from their carriage. During cold, stormy months, these popular eateries were packed with customers. In the summer, however, people preferred to eat outdoors.

Ferry Boat – 32¢: The image on the 32-cent Ferry Boat stamp is actually a composite drawing based on several boats from the early 1900s. The *Newark II* (1902) and the *Chicago II* (1901), however, were the primary sources for the design. Ferry boats have been used for hundreds of years. Early ferries were often just rafts which were either rowed or moved by poles. Cables were later used to draw the ferries, and today, most ferries are powered by their own engines.

Lighthouses – 25¢ Five historic US lighthouses are featured in a booklet of stamps that were issued to celebrate the US Lighthouse Service’s bicentennial. The Lighthouse Service is still an important part of today’s modern Coast Guard, which also celebrated its bicentennial in 1990. The lighthouses shown on the stamps are the Admiralty Head (Washington), Cape Hatteras (North Carolina), West Quoddy Head (Maine), American Shoals (Florida), and Sandy Hook (New Jersey).

Fawn – 19¢ This endearing stamp depicted a popular nature topic – the white-tailed deer. Rather than picturing a magnificent buck, a newborn fawn with sprawling legs was chosen as the subject. The 19¢ denomination it carried covered the new postcard rate.

Wood Duck – 29¢ There are two different varieties of the 29¢ wood duck stamp. One was printed by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing (BEP) and the other by KCS (a subsidiary of the American Bank Note Company). Although there were subtle differences, the most noticeable was that the BEP stamps had the words “29 USA” and “Wood Duck” printed in black, while on the KCS stamps the type was in red.

African Violet – 29¢ This stamp featured one of the most popular stamp subjects. Originally discovered in Tanzania, the first seeds were shipped to the US in 1894. Since then it has become a favorite house plant with tens of thousands of varieties offering a dazzling array of color combinations.

Pine Cone – 29¢ Carrying pollen and seeds, pine cones are the reproductive part of pine trees. Fertilized in early spring, the seeds of the female pine cone generally takes several years to mature.

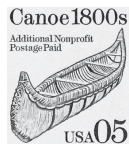
Pink Rose – 32¢ Like the other 1995 self-adhesive issues, this 32-cent Pink Rose definitive features a wavy die cut which simulates perforations once the stamp is peeled from its backing. In addition to this stamp, designer Gyo Fujikawa worked on the four-cent United States-Japan Treaty stamp of 1960 and the five-cent beautification stamp of 1966.

Peaches and Pear – 32¢ In 1995, demand for self-adhesive or “peel-and-stick” stamps, as they became popularly called, increased dramatically. As a result, production of self-adhesives in 1995 more than tripled the 2.4 billion which were released in 1994. To meet consumer demand, production of the self-adhesive version of the 32¢ Peaches and Pear stamps jumped from 800 million to 1.4 billion! Like the Flag over Porch self-adhesives released earlier in the year, the Peaches and Pears self-adhesives feature simulated perforation die cuts. In addition to the pane and coil self-adhesive formats, the Peaches and Pears were issued in non-adhesive booklets as attached pairs.

1991-1995



Steam Carriage



Canoe



Lunch Wagon



Ferryboat



Admiral Head, WA



Cape Hatteras, NC



W. Quoddy Head, ME



American Shoals, FL



Sandy Hook, NJ



Fawn



Wood Duck



African Violet



Pine Cone



Pink Rose



LARGE 1995

Peaches



LARGE 1995

Pear

1990-1991

Micronesia/Marshall Islands – 25¢ This joint issue by the US, Micronesia, and the Marshall Islands commemorates the 1986 compact of free association. It granted political independence to the people of Micronesia and the Marshall Islands. Each had been a US trust since the end of World War II.

Christmas – Traditional – 25¢ A detail from the 15th century tempera and oil painting *Madonna and Child*, by Antonello da Messina, is on the 1990 traditional Christmas issue. The painting is part of the national Gallery's Andrew W. Mellon Collection.

"F" Stamps – 29¢ Since 1978, the USPS has accompanied a change in rate with a non-denominated stamp on which a letter of the alphabet represents the new denomination. Prepared long in advance, the "F" stamp was ready and waiting for the 1991 rate change. Like the 1988 "E" stamp, the subject of this stamp, a single red tulip, was chosen to match the letter "F." Printing contracts were awarded to three different companies. The United States Bank Note Corporation was assigned to produce sheet stamps, the BEP printed coils and booklets, and KCS printed booklets.

Flower – 29¢ For the first time, a non-denominated rate-change stamp was issued and then re-issued later in the year, bearing the first-class rate denomination. Once again, the stamps were printed three different ways by different companies: United States Bank Note Corporation for the sheet, KCS Industries Inc. for the booklet, and Stamp Venturers for the coil. The coil, however, had "slit perforations" or rouletting, giving it an imperforate appearance.

Make-Up Rate – 4¢ Although this stamp was

criticized for its lack of design, it served a very functional purpose – to "make-up" the 4¢ difference between the old 25¢ rate and the new 29¢ rate. This was the first non-denominated stamp of its kind.

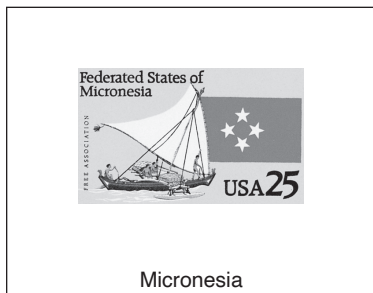
"F" ATM Flag – Although the "F" stood for Flower on the regular non-denominated stamps, it was purely coincidental that it also stood for Flag on the experimental ATM stamps. As part of the Postal Service's test program with Seattle First National Bank, these stamps were vended through selected automatic teller machines (ATMs) to determine their practicality and appeal.

Flag over Mt. Rushmore – 29¢ This stamp was another in a long-running series of definitives that showed the American flag waving over a national landmark. Located in South Dakota, at the foot of the Black Hills, Mt. Rushmore is crowned by gigantic carvings of heads of four US presidents: George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Theodore Roosevelt, and Abraham Lincoln. This massive project was begun in 1927 and was not completed until 14 years later, in 1941.

Flag & Rings – 29¢ When the USPS became an official sponsor of the 1992 Olympic Games, a request was made to have a definitive picturing the American flag accompanied by the Olympic rings. This was the first definitive to bear the Olympic logo.

Fishing Boat – 19¢ Featuring the prow of a fishing boat tied to a pier along a marshy shoreline, this stamp was the third in the newly created Mini-Scapes Series. The boat pictured is typical of an oyster or crabbing boat found along the East Coast.

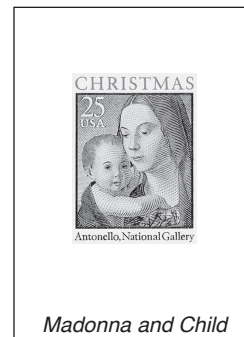
1990-1991



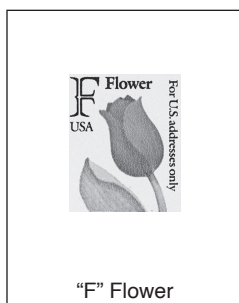
Micronesia



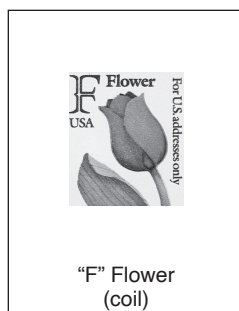
Marshall Islands



Madonna and Child



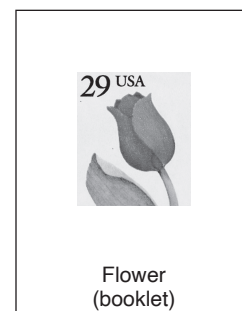
"F" Flower



"F" Flower
(coil)



"F" Flower
(booklet)



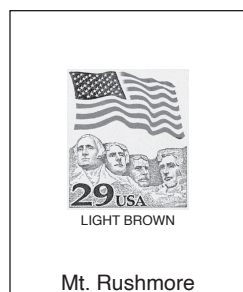
Flower
(booklet)



Make-Up Rate



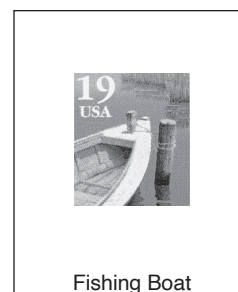
Plastic ATM "F"



Mt. Rushmore



Flag and Rings



Fishing Boat

1991

Flags on Parade – 29¢ In 1866, the town of Waterloo, New York, became the first to observe Memorial Day in remembrance of the soldiers who died during the American Civil War. Today, Memorial Day, which became a Federal holiday in 1971, honors all Americans who gave their lives for their country. This particular stamp was issued to commemorate the 125th anniversary of that first Memorial Day celebration. The design features three American flags waving in the breeze. Designer Peter Cocci adapted his original design at the Citizens' Stamp Advisory committee's suggestion to picture the flags lined up in a staggered formation as though they were passing a viewer of a parade.

Torch ATM – 29¢ To meet the strict engineering criteria of the automatic teller machines (ATMs), the first ATM stamps were made of polyester, a material which is not easily recycled. After successfully test-marketing the stamps in the Seattle and Pittsburgh area for a year, the Postal Service proceeded with research to develop an environmentally sound paper that would meet the same engineering criteria. The result was the EXTRAordinary Liberty Torch stamp, which used 50% recycled paper.

Savings Bonds – 29¢ The impressive design that commemorates the 50th anniversary of US Savings Bonds intentionally resembles the patriotic posters of

the World War II era. Americans bought more than \$54 billion worth of bonds during World War II.

Love – 29¢ The 29¢ Love stamp for 1991 was exceptionally fitting – the Earth in the shape of a heart. With the Persian Gulf War foremost in the news, most Americans felt that “what the world needs now is love...” The stamp was once again issued in both sheet and booklet form.

William Saroyan – 29¢ American author William Saroyan came to fame in 1934 with his short story, “The Daring Young Man on the Flying Trapeze.” Though he wrote during the cynicism of the Great Depression, Saroyan managed to keep his stories light-hearted and optimistic.

Desert Storm/Desert Shield – 29¢ The inscription in the selvage reads: “This stamp salutes the members of the US Armed Forces who served in Operations Desert Shield & Desert Storm. The design depicts the Southwest Asia Service Medal, established by presidential Executive order in March 1991.”

Numismatics – 29¢ The study of coins and currency is honored on a stamp which pictures two popular collector coins, the 1858 1¢ Flying Eagle and the \$20 gold Double Eagle, plus two bank notes.

1991



Flags on Parade



ATM Liberty Torch



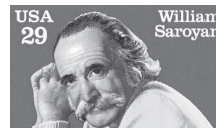
Savings Bonds



Love



Love
(booklet)



William Saroyan



Desert Shield/Desert Storm



Desert Shield/Desert Storm
(booklet)



Numismatics

❧ 1991-1992 ❧

Comedians – 29¢ Postal rules and regulations fell by the wayside for these booklet stamps. Not only is the designer's name, famous caricaturist Albert Hirschfeld, prominently displayed on the cover of the booklet, but the rule against secret marks in stamp artwork was waived for him. He was allowed to continue his practice of incorporating his daughter's name, "Nina," somewhere in each of his drawings. Laurel & Hardy and Abbott & Costello, as well as Jack Benny and Edgar Bergen, have been seen by millions on the big screen and television. Fanny Brice was one of the Performers in the famous Ziegfeld Follies and was the main character of the biographical movie *Funny Girl*.

Jan E. Matzeliger – 29¢ The fourteenth stamp in the Black Heritage Series pays tribute to this immigrant from Dutch Guiana (Suriname), who revolutionized the shoe industry with various labor-saving machines.

Christmas – Traditional – Non-denominated 29¢ The image on the 1991 stamp is taken from a tempera and gold leaf painting by Antoniazio Romano, a 15th-century Italian artist, *Madonna and Child with Donor*. Romano painted in a realistic style, using light and shadow to add to the depth of his subjects.

Christmas – Contemporary – Non-denominated 29¢ John Berkey's five designs for the contemporary Christmas stamp booklet show a

sequence of five scenes of Santa Claus making a delivery on Christmas Eve. The first design, Santa waving from a chimney, was also used for the sheet stamp.

Pledge of Allegiance – 29¢ The Pledge of Allegiance was first recited in 1892, in honor of the 400th anniversary of Columbus' discovery of America. Since then, it has undergone two alterations; in 1924, the phrase "the flag of the United States of America" was substituted for "my flag," and in 1954, the words "under God" were added by Congress. The pledge was officially adopted by the United States in 1942.

Eagle and Shield Self-Adhesives – 29¢ The Postal Service continued its pressure-sensitive program in 1992 with the 29¢ Eagle and Shield panes. Customers who purchased the seventeen 29¢ stamps for \$5 paid a 7-cent surcharge for the convenience of having no-tear, no-lick, self-stick stamps. A survey showed that a significant number of customers were willing to pay the extra surcharge for the deluxe self-adhesive issues. To insure that the USPS was supplied with a top-quality product, three manufacturers were chosen: Dittler Brothers, Stamp Venturers, and Bank Note Corporation. Each company could be identified by the color of the denomination and "USA"; Dittler Brothers, green; Stamp Venturers, red; and Bank Note Corporation, brown.

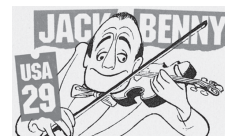
1991-1992



Laurel & Hardy



Bergen & McCarthy



Jack Benny



Fanny Brice



Abbott & Costello



Jan E. Matzeliger



Madonna and Child



Santa in Chimney



Pledge of Allegiance



Eagle & Shield



Eagle & Shield



Eagle & Shield

❧ 1991-1994 ❧

Eagle Self-Adhesive – 29¢ By 1994, self-adhesive stamps were here to stay. The first-such stamp was issued in 1974, but unfortunately, this “stamp of the future” was not technologically efficient to produce. It would be 16 years before the next self-adhesive would come on the market. Within just four short years, however, these lick-free, tear-free stamps had become a significant part of the US stamp program.

Statue of Liberty – 29¢ Featuring a bold design of Lady Liberty, this stamp brought the world’s most widely recognized symbol of freedom to the self-adhesive line. In addition to being issued in sheetlets and strips, this stamp was also the first self-adhesive to be sold in full coils.

Eagle and Shield Coil – Created especially for presorted bulk mail, this stamp carries the equivalent of a 10¢ face value. Because the denomination was lower than the lowest rate of its class, the user was required to make up the difference. In 1993, this stamp was reprinted by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing and Stamp Venturers. Although both companies used gravure printing, there are distinct color differences. In addition, the 1993 versions read “USA Bulk Rate” instead of “Bulk Rate USA.”

USA Presort – 23¢ This simple, stylized stamp was used to pay the basic rate for first-class mail which had been presorted according to ZIP code. Its graphic design features the letters USA, which appear to be made out of chrome. Reflected on their metallic surface is the red, white, and blue of the windblown American flag. Printings by two different companies, the Bureau of Engraving and Printing and the American Bank Note Company, resulted in distinct color differences. In 1993, a third company, Stamp Venturers, printed this stamp using a three-color gravure process (as opposed to a 4-color process), which resulted in yet another variety.

Flag over White House – 29¢ Although it honored the 200th anniversary of the White House, this stamp was not considered a commemorative, because it was not issued in limited quantities for a limited time. The White House serves as the president’s home and office, and was known as the president’s house until

1901. The first public building in Washington, DC, this historic site is viewed by more than one million visitors annually.

World Columbian Expo – 29¢ Featuring a portion of the 15¢ pictorial design of 1869, this stamp was issued to promote the stamp event of the year – the 1992 World Columbian Stamp Expo. The original design for the 1869 stamp was taken from John Vanderlyn’s painting *The Landing of Columbus*, which hangs in the rotunda of the Capitol.

Olympic Baseball – 29¢ Although baseball was played as a demonstration sport in seven former Olympic Games, the 1992 Summer Games in Barcelona were the first where the game was played as an official sport. To commemorate this milestone in the history of America’s favorite pastime, a stamp featuring an action-packed image of a baserunner attempting to evade the tag of an opposing player was issued. It was released in Atlanta, Georgia, site of the 1996 Summer Games and home of the 1991 National League pennant winners – the Atlanta Braves.

Alaska Highway – 29¢ A 1942 Army photograph was chosen as the design for the stamp celebrating the Alaska Highway’s 50th anniversary. Construction on this 1,500-mile highway was begun in March 1942 and ended in November that same year. During World War II, it served as the principal route for connecting Army bases in Alaska with the continental US.

Kentucky Statehood – 29¢ Featuring My Old Kentucky Home State Park, this stamp celebrated the 200th anniversary of Kentucky’s statehood. The home shown on the stamp was immortalized in Stephen Foster’s song “My Old Kentucky Home,” which became the state’s official song in 1928.

Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo – 29¢ On June 27, 1542, Portuguese explorer Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo set sail from New Spain (present-day Mexico) in search of a water route between the Atlantic and the Pacific. Three months later, he landed at present-day San Diego. Since no portraits exist of this famous conquistador, this stamp is only the artist’s conception.

1991-1994



Eagle



Statue of Liberty



Eagle and Shield



USA and Flag



Flag over White House



World Columbian Expo



Olympic Baseball



Alaska Highway



Kentucky Statehood



Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo

1992-1993

Wild Animals – 29¢ “Do Something Wild – Collect Stamps!” was the Postal Service’s 1992 theme for National Stamp Collecting Month. To kick off the event, a booklet of Wild Animal Stamps was issued, featuring five of nature’s most-beloved creatures.

The giraffe is the tallest of all animals. An adult male can be as tall as 18 feet, and although the average giraffe’s neck is over 6 feet long, it has the same seven neckbones as other mammals.

The giant panda is found mainly in the mountains of China and Tibet. Up until the mid-1800s, this elusive creature was considered only a myth.

The flamingo’s long, curving neck and bright pink feathers make it one of the most recognizable birds. These distinctive creatures live in large colonies and can be found wild in southern Florida.

King penguins are the second-largest species of penguins. These amusing black and white birds make their home in the Antarctic, where they frolic on snow-covered tundras.

A distinct race of tigers, the white Bengal tiger can be distinguished by the color pattern of its coat. About 5,000 of them survive today and can be found in the dense jungles of eastern India and Bangladesh.

Christmas – Traditional – 29¢ This year’s traditional Christmas stamp was based on the painting *Madonna and Child with Saints* by Giovanni Bellini. A member of the Bellini family of painters during the Italian Renaissance, he helped develop a type of painting known as *sacra conversazione* (holy conversation), featuring the

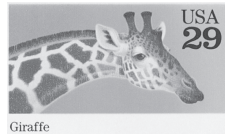
Madonna and Child in an interior setting with two or more saints.

Year of the Rooster – 29¢ For the first time ever, the Postal Service issued a special stamp for the New Year. Printed in a new and experimental format; panes of 20 that are four stamps wide and five stamps deep, the stamp depicts a stylized rooster, referring to the Chinese year beginning January 23, 1993.

Oregon Trail – 29¢ The longest overland route used in the Westward Expansion of the United States, the Oregon Trail wound 2,000 miles across prairies, deserts, and mountains. A chief route to the Northwest in the mid-1800s, thousands of pioneers traveled along this historic trail. Although settlers began using the trail as early as 1841, it wasn’t until 1843 that the first large-scale immigration to the Oregon Territory took place.

Grace Kelly – 29¢ Although she has appeared on several stamps of Monaco, this was the first time Grace Kelly was honored on a US postage stamp. Known for her classic beauty, Kelly enchanted the American public when she gave up her glamorous movie star career to marry Prince Rainier of Monaco. Based on a publicity portrait taken for her 1954 film *Country Girl*, this stamp was engraved by the world-renowned Czeslaw Slania, and was a joint issue by the US and Monaco.

1992-1993



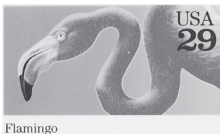
Giraffe

Giraffe



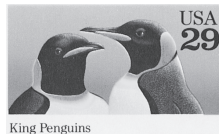
Giant Panda

Giant Panda



Flamingo

Flamingo



King Penguins

King Penguins



White Bengal Tiger

White Bengal Tiger



Madonna and Child



Year of the Rooster



Oregon Trail



Grace Kelly

❧ 1993 ❧

Cherokee Strip – 29¢ Issued to commemorate the centennial of the Cherokee Strip Land Run, this stamp celebrated one of the largest, most spectacular races in history. An 8-million-acre parcel of land in northwest Oklahoma, the Cherokee Strip was opened for settlement on September 16, 1893. More than 1,000 entrants raced to stake a claim in what *The New York Times* had billed as the “greatest real estate deal of the century.”

Joe Louis – 29¢ With the issue of this commemorative, Joe Louis became the first professional prizefighter to be recognized on a US postage stamp. Issued on the 55th anniversary of the Louis-Schmeling rematch, when Louis knocked out Germany’s Max Schmeling in 2:04 of the first round, the stamp shows the “Brown Bomber” in a boxer’s stance, poised for action.

Broadway Musicals – 29¢ Part of the Legends of

American Music Series, this set of four stamps also helped celebrate the 100th anniversary of Broadway. Featuring popular American musicals, these stamps represent some of the most famous and successful musical collaborations in American theatre, including *Show Boat*, *Porgy & Bess*, *Oklahoma!*, and *My Fair Lady*.

Christmas – Traditional – 29¢ Based on the painting *Madonna and Child in a Landscape* by the Italian artist Giovanni Battista Cima de Conegliano, this year’s traditional Christmas stamp was produced by two different contractors with two different engravers. Longtime engraver Robert Hipschen created the sheet version for the Bureau of Engraving and Printing. Engraved by the renowned Czeslaw Slania for KCS Industries, the booklet version uses a cropped design, eliminating the Christ Child’s left hand and the Madonna’s left shoulder.

1993



Cherokee Strip



Joe Louis



Show Boat



Porgy & Bess



Oklahoma!



My Fair Lady



Giovanni Battista Cima, c.1497
North Carolina Museum of Art

Madonna and Child
(booklet)

1993-1994

Christmas – Contemporary – 29¢ Issued to send Christmas greetings to friends and family, these festive stamps feature a snowman, soldier, jack-in-the-box, and reindeer. Produced as a booklet of 20, a sheet of 50, and a self-adhesive pane of 12, these stamps gave postal patrons a variety of options for sending their holiday mail. In addition, the “snowman” design was also issued as a self-adhesive pane of 18 to be sold through automated teller machines. In addition to obvious size differences, a closer look will reveal a difference in the number of dots on each stamp, thus creating a minor design difference as well.

Northern Mariana Islands – 29¢ Issued to honor the Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands, the design of this stamp includes the commonwealth’s flag and a woman seated near palm trees and two latte stones. A column of limestone, latte stones were used to support the traditional homes of the island’s natives.

Columbus Landing in Puerto Rico – 29¢ Not only does this stamp commemorate the historic landing of Columbus in Puerto Rico on November 14, 1493, but it also marks Puerto Rico’s quincentennial celebration. Its scenic design pictures two caravel ships approaching the island’s western shore.

AIDS Awareness – 29¢ Although numerous other nations have issued AIDS-related stamps, this was a first for the United States. The design features a looped red ribbon, symbolic of awareness of AIDS and compassion for those suffering from complications caused by AIDS.

Edward R. Murrow – 29¢ “Edward Murrow towered over American journalism like the Colossus over Rhodes,” is how journalist Dan Rather described this brilliant man. A graduate of Washington State University, Murrow’s eyewitness reporting of World War II brought him great fame. In 1961, President John F. Kennedy appointed Murrow director of the US Information Agency.

Love – 29¢ Three new Love stamps were added to this popular series in 1994. Two of the issues feature Victorian-inspired visions of doves and roses. The third stamp has a more contemporary design, and has the distinction of being the first ever self-adhesive Love stamp.

Year of the Dog – 29¢ According to the 12-year cycle of the Chinese Zodiac, 1994 is the Year of the Dog. The royal dog of China, the Pekingese, was the basis for this issue, which celebrates one of the oldest festivals found in all of history.

❧ 1993-1994 ❧



Soldier
(booklet)



Snowman
(booklet)



Reindeer
(booklet)



Jack-in-the-Box
(booklet)



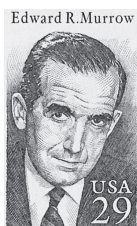
Northern Mariana Islands



Columbus Landing in Puerto Rico



AIDS Awareness



Edward R. Murrow



Sunrise Love



Year of the Dog

1994

World Cup Soccer – 29¢ The United States hosted the World Cup Soccer Championship for the first time in 1994. In honor of the month-long competition, the USPS issued three commemorative stamps in different denominations. The international and air mail rates allowed players, coaches, and officials from around the world to send mail back home.

Norman Rockwell – 29¢ On January 6, 1941, as World War II raged in Europe, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt addressed Congress. He submitted that any settlement reached after the war should be based upon “four freedoms”: freedom of speech, freedom of worship, freedom from want, and freedom from fear. Norman Rockwell created four paintings, each titled after one of the freedoms, that visually idealize the concepts of Roosevelt’s speech.

More than one million people saw the paintings on a 16-city tour to promote war bonds. The tour was a tremendous success, and over \$130 million was raised for the cause.

Rockwell’s *Triple Self-Portrait* is a wonderful example of the good-natured humor found throughout much of his work. These stamps, issued 15 years after Rockwell’s death, celebrate the centennial of his birth.

Locomotives – 29¢ The story of the railroads goes hand in hand with the great economic growth of the early United States. Each of the five locomotives in this series was made in America, and each is representative of a decade during the last 50 years of the 19th century – regarded as the golden age of American railroading.

1994



World Cup Soccer



Norman Rockwell



Hudson's *General*



McQueen's *Jupiter*



Eddy's No. 242



Ely's No. 10



Buchanan's No. 999

1994

George Meany – 29¢ At age 16, George Meany left school and became a plumber. Meany's stubbornness and work ethic enabled him to quickly assume leadership roles in his local union. From this humble beginning, Meany rose to become the most powerful labor organizer in US history. His greatest achievement was the merger of the American Federation of Labor (AFL) with the Congress of Industrial Labor (CIO) in 1955. Meany served as president of this organization until he retired in 1979.

James Thurber – 29¢ A celebrated author, humorist, playwright, and cartoonist, James Thurber published over 31 books, as well as frequently

contributing to *The New Yorker* magazine. His best-known works are the short story "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty" and the play *The Male Animal*.

Christmas – Traditional – 29¢: The stamp's design was from the painting *Virgin and Child*, by Elisabetta Sirani. She was the first female artist to have her work pictured on a Traditional Christmas stamp.

Christmas – Contemporary – 29¢: In 1994, three Contemporary Christmas stamps were issued: a Christmas Stocking, a Santa, and a Cardinal in Snow. They were first released on October 20, 1994, in Harmony, Minnesota.

1994



George Meany



James Thurber



Madonna and Child



Christmas Stocking



Santa

❧ 1994-1996 ❧

“G” Make-Up Rate – 3¢ This three-cent stamp served a very practical purpose – to make up the difference between the old first-class rate of 29 cents and the new first-class rate of 32 cents. Due to the great deal of criticism the 1991 make-up rate stamp received for its unattractive design, this stamp features a flying dove with an olive branch in its beak.

Because the 1995 US postal rates increased, an entirely new generation of non-denominated stamps was issued. Collectors found themselves faced with 15 different “G” stamps. In 1995, half as many non-denominated stamps were released as had been issued in the past 17 years for the A-F series! All the stamps feature the “Old Glory” design, but variations in their background colors, intended usage, and the color of their “G” designations provide the key to their differences.

Old Glory (“G”) Postcard Rate – 20¢ Two stamps were issued for the 20-cent postcard rate. Both stamps feature a light-yellow background, but the stamp printed by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing (BEP) has a black “G,” while the other, which was printed by Stamp Venturers, has a red “G.”

Old Glory (“G”) First-Class Rate – 32¢ Stamp Venturers’ first-class stamps feature a red “G.” A sheet and two coil stamps – one normally perforated and one rouletted – were printed by Stamp Venturers.

Flag over Porch – 32¢ Featuring a Victorian-style house behind a waving American flag, this 32¢ stamp was produced as both a self-adhesive and a normally gummed version. The original plans for releasing both versions of the stamps on May 19, 1995, were changed due to the huge demand from the public for the easy-to-use self-adhesives. They were released on April 18.

Butte – 5¢ This five-cent stamp was issued for use on bulk rate (third class) non-profit mail. It depicts a colorful butte scene and is the first entry in the new American Scenes Series. The stamp was issued to supplement supplies of the 5¢ Canoe and 5¢ Old Glory non-profit coil stamps and to offer customers more design variety. In 1996, a self-adhesive version was produced to meet consumer demand.

Mountain – 5¢ The second addition to the American Scenes Series, this five-cent stamp was also issued for use by non-profit mailers. The design, which features the snow-covered peaks of a mountain, was created by Colorado artist Tom Engeman. Engeman also designed the 1995 Butte stamp and the 1996 Smithsonian Institution stamp. Coil rolls of 500 and 3,000

were printed by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, and rolls of 10,000 were printed by Stamp Venturers. The color of the year date in the bottom-left margin distinguished the two issues. The BEP printing bears a violet date, while the Stamp Venturers bears a blue date. This stamp was also issued in the convenient self-adhesive format.

Automobile – 10¢ This 10¢ stamp was issued to fill the regular third-class rate. It depicts the front of a classic automobile, and is the first entry in the all-new American Transportation Series. Like the 5¢ Butte stamp, this stamp offered customers more design variety and was issued to supplement supplies of the 10¢ Tractor Trailer and 10¢ Eagle and Shield coil stamps. A self-adhesive version was issued in 1996 to meet consumer demand.

Juke Box – 25¢ This 25¢ stamp was also part of the new American Culture Series. It was issued to pay the postage for the first-class presort letter rate. This stamp supplements supplies of the “G” letter presort-rate stamp and replaces the 23¢ USA presort-rate coils. Bulk mailers were able to use the non-denominated stamp at various presort rates, with the postage difference being paid at the time of mailing. A self-adhesive version was also produced in 1996 to meet consumer demand. In 1997, two self-adhesive versions were produced, a regular self-adhesive coil and a linerless coil. The face of the stamps of the linerless coil was coated to prevent stamps from sticking to those below them, without using backing paper.

Flag over Field – 32¢ This 32¢ Flag over Field self-adhesive stamp was first issued on March 17, 1995, in New York, NY – the official designated First Day City. Issued in panes of 18, the stamp was created specifically for use in automatic teller machines.

Love – 32¢ The non-denominated (32¢) Love stamp was actually printed before the 1995 rate change took effect. Postal authorities knew that the change would occur before the stamp was actually issued, but did not know exactly what the rate would be. So, in order to release a Love stamp on Valentine’s Day, this stamp was issued without a denomination. The 32-cent denominated version was issued later in the year, at the same time as the 55¢ variety.

Some art experts say these “cupids,” which were taken from a painting executed by the world-famous artist Raphael, are actually *putti*, or “guardian death angels.” According to tradition, the putti are the angels which take the soul to its final resting place. In Raphael’s *Sistine Madonna*, the putti are waiting to escort the soul of Pope Julius II.

1994-1996



Dove with Olive Branch



Old Glory



Old Glory
(booklet)



Flag over Porch



Butte



Mountain



Automobile



Juke Box



Flag over Porch
(coil)



Flag Over Porch
(coil)



Flag Over Porch
(booklet)



Flag over Field



Flag Over Porch
(booklet)



Flag Over Porch
(booklet)



32¢ Rate Love

1995

Bessie Coleman – 32¢ The 18th stamp in the USPS's Black Heritage Series, this commemorative features Bessie Coleman, or "Queen Bess," as she came to be known, in her leather flight cap and goggles. Coleman was the first African American female aviator. Born in a one-room cabin, she achieved her dream of becoming a pilot during a time when most African Americans would not have even considered learning to fly. Coleman was killed on April 30, 1926, when the controls failed on the airplane in which she was a passenger.

Love – 32¢ The non-denominated Love stamp was printed before the 1995 rate change took effect. Postal authorities released the stamps in time for Valentine's Day without a denomination, and issued the 32-cent denominated version later in the year, at the same time as the 55¢ variety.

The child angels depicted on the stamp are from Raphael's 16th-century painting *Sistine Madonna*. An extensive debate ensued over the stamp design. Some critics described the angels as putti, whose role is related to mortal death rather than love. Others felt the images portrayed *genii*, a type of guardian angel or attendant spirits. Postal authorities defended their choice

in either case, declaring that the characters, isolated from the painting, were simply cherubs.

POW/MIA – 32¢ "The ID tag has come to represent many things in the modern military. The identification of each person as a unique individual who has the right to hope, to survive, and to ultimately have life after the wounds of combat. It is a symbol for commemorating and remembering all our POWs and MIAs – from the Revolutionary War to Somalia." With those words, Postmaster General Marvin Runyon announced the design of this unforgettable stamp. The stamp was issued on Memorial Day – the day set aside to honor those who have made sacrifices for America.

Great Lakes Lighthouses – 32¢ These five stamps depict five historical lighthouses, each from one of the Great Lakes: Spectacle Reef from Lake Huron, Thirty Mile Point on Lake Ontario, Split Rock from Lake Superior, Marblehead on Lake Erie, and St. Joseph on Lake Michigan. Since the early 19th century, these historic lighthouses have aided mariners on the nation's "inland seas," which have many of the dangerous features of oceans, including violent storms, gale winds, fog, and ice.

1995



Bessie Coleman



32c Love
(booklet)



POW and MIA



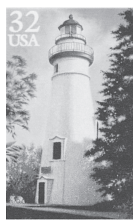
Split Rock, Lake Superior



St. Joseph, Michigan



Spectacle Reef, Huron



Marblehead, Erie



30 Mile Point, Ontario

1995

Carousel Horses – 32¢ Part of the Folk Art Series, the Carousel Horses stamps were the second set featuring carousel animals. The four horses on these 32-cent commemoratives represent the three distinct styles of American carousel carvings from 1870 to 1930, which is considered the golden age of the carousel. Two of the horses are from the “Coney Island” style: the king horse and the armored jumper. The Indian pony represents the “Philadelphia” style, while the “Lillie Belle” jumper showcases the “country fair” style.

Women’s Suffrage – 32¢ Celebrating the 75th anniversary of the 19th Amendment, which granted women the right to vote, this stamp also salutes the women whose vision and determination won this fundamental political freedom. The unusual design combines a photograph of 1913 suffragettes and a 1976 photograph of ERA supporters.

Louis Armstrong – 32¢ Louis Armstrong was a Jazz innovator of the highest order. His musicianship and personality were so appealing that in the 1930s he became not only a bandleader and solo performer, but also a comedian, movie star, and international celebrity. At the time of this stamp’s release in September 1995, the USPS stated that Armstrong was the most requested male stamp subject. In the seven years prior to this issue, more than 38,765 signatures representing 62 countries had been collected by the New Orleans Jazz Club

Collection of the Louisiana State Museum in support of an Armstrong stamp.

Republic of Palau – 32¢ This stamp celebrates the Republic of Palau’s first year of independence. Following World War II, Palau became a Trust Territory of the United States – a condition resulting from the chaos that followed the breakup of Japan’s World War II empire. On January 1, 1994, Palau became an independent republic.

Christmas – Traditional – 32¢ The 1995 traditional Christmas stamp features artwork taken from a painting by the famous Italian painter Giotto di Bondone. *Enthroned Madonna and Child* was executed in the early 14th century and was actually part of a five-section altarpiece. Giotto’s artwork is credited with sparking the revolution that led to Italian Renaissance art. His paintings abandoned the two-dimensional style of his predecessors and embraced a more realistic, lifelike form.

Christmas – Contemporary – 32¢ The image on this “Midnight Angel” stamp was taken from an antique greeting card, printed by an unknown company around 1910. However, the artist who created the illustration, Ellen H. Clapsaddle, is well known for the postcards she created for children. This stunning stamp was issued in the self-adhesive format, which had become increasingly popular with the public by 1995.

1995



Palomino



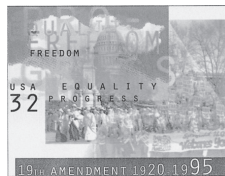
Pinto



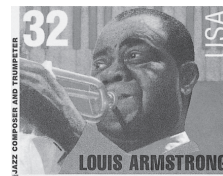
Armored Jumper



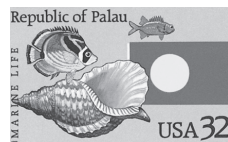
Brown Jumper



Women's Suffrage



Louis Armstrong



Republic of Palau



Madonna and Child



Midnight Angel

1996

Ernest E. Just – 32¢ The nineteenth addition to the Black Heritage Series, this stamp honors the internationally renowned zoologist Ernest E. Just. Known primarily for his pioneering research in marine biology, Just became the first recipient of the Springarn Medal, awarded by the NAACP.

Year of the Rat – 32¢ The fourth installment in the series honoring the Chinese New Year, this stamp marks 1996 as the Year of the Rat. The Chinese associate the rat with money, and individuals born during the Year of the Rat are said to be energetic, charming, meticulous, sociable, persistent, humorous, generous, honest, jolly, and even seductive.

Marathon – 32¢ Although this stamp was issued on the 100th anniversary of the Boston Marathon, it was actually created to honor all marathons. The contemporary design, which features a stylized runner with wings sprouting from his feet, was inspired by the Greek legend of Hermes. A messenger of the gods, Hermes was often depicted wearing winged sandals.

Georgia O’Keeffe – 32¢ Issued to honor artist Georgia O’Keeffe, this stamp featured her well-known painting titled *Red Poppy*, 1927. Much of her work incorporated elements of the Southwest, including animal skulls, rocks, and expansive blue skies. O’Keeffe’s most popular paintings are her flower paintings, which number more than 200.

Tennessee Statehood – 32¢ The first commemorative

to be issued in the popular self-adhesive format, this stamp celebrated the 200th anniversary of Tennessee’s statehood. Featured on the stamp is a view of the State Capitol building, with a statue in the foreground showing General Andrew Jackson fighting the Battle of New Orleans during the War of 1812.

Breast Cancer Awareness – 32¢ Issued to raise awareness of breast cancer, this stamp launched a four-month public service campaign. Although it is the most common form of cancer in women, through education and awareness, breast cancer is no longer the death sentence it once was. This stamp not only raised awareness, but also provided a positive message – one of hope and survival.

James Dean – 32¢ James Dean became the second star to appear in the Legends of Hollywood Series, a series that showcases individuals who had a major impact on the development of American films. An intense and restless individual both on-screen as well as off, Dean personified the turbulence of the 1950s. The stamp, with its stormy, foreboding skies, was designed to reflect that turbulence.

Iowa Statehood – 32¢ Admitted to the Union in 1846 as the 29th state, Iowa celebrated its 150th anniversary in 1996. Issued to commemorate the occasion, this stamp was also produced as a self-adhesive. The stamp design is based on *Young Corn*, a painting by renowned artist and native of Iowa, Grant Wood.

1996



Ernest E. Just



Year of the Rat



Marathon



Georgia O'Keeffe



Tennessee Statehood



Breast Cancer Awareness



James Dean



Iowa Statehood
(booklet)

1996

Riverboats – 32¢ Picturing five riverboats from the turn of the century – *Robt. E. Lee*, *Sylvan Dell*, *Far West*, *Rebecca Everingham*, and *Bailey Gatzert* – these stamps represent a bygone era. Chosen for their historical significance as well as their visual appeal, the boats represent five different regions. The first commemoratives to be issued totally in self-adhesive format, these stamps were also the first to be separated by simulated die-cut perfs.

F. Scott Fitzgerald – 23¢ Celebrated novelist and short story writer F. Scott Fitzgerald became the 15th addition to the Literary Arts Series. The stamp shows a portrait of the writer. In the distance is a

small green light, inspired by the light at the end of Daisy Buchanan's dock in Fitzgerald's famous novel *The Great Gatsby*. The 23¢ denomination is intended to pay the additional postage on first-class mail exceeding one ounce.

Christmas – Traditional – 32¢ For the first time ever, the traditional Madonna and Child stamp was issued as a regular gummed stamp and as a self-adhesive. The artwork is actually taken from a detail of the painting *Adoration of the Shepherds*, by Paolo de Matteis. This 18th-century masterpiece hangs in the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts in Richmond.

1996-1997



Robert E. Lee



Sylvan Dell



Far West



Rebecca Everingham



Bailey Gatzert



F. Scott Fitzgerald



*Madonna and Child
(booklet)*

❧ 1996-1997 ❧

Christmas – Contemporary – 32¢ Issued for use on holiday mail, this year's contemporary Christmas stamps featured stylized designs created with cut paper. The four stamps pictured families enjoying the holidays and showed a father and two children enjoying the glow of a fire; a mother and daughter Christmas shopping; a father and two children decorating a Christmas tree; and a little girl dreaming of Santa. For customers' convenience, these stamps were issued as a regular gummed stamp in panes of fifty and as die-cut self-adhesives.

Hanukkah – 32¢ This stamp was the first in the Postal Service's new Holiday Celebrations Series, which highlights different cultural or ethnic holidays. Featuring a contemporary image of a menorah and nine multi-colored candles, the design reflects the festive quality of Hanukkah. Like the Riverboat stamps, this issue was only produced as a self-adhesive and could be separated from the sheet using the simulated die-cut perforations.

Statue of Liberty – 32¢ New self-adhesive Statue of Liberty stamps were issued on February 1, 1997, in booklets of 15, 20, and 30. Printed on the back of

the booklet of 20 stamps was a message concerning the Postal Service's *Stamps etc.* mail order catalog. In August, a new version of the stamp booklet was distributed with a message for the National Domestic Violence Hotline.

Swans – 32¢ and 55¢: The 15th installment in the popular Love Series, the Swans are the first stamps of the series that do not incorporate the word "love" in their design. Swans have long been symbols of love; these birds mate for life once they find their partner. Their courtship ritual involves head-to-head posturing, as seen on the stamp.

Helping Children Learn – 32¢ In addition to being dedicated to helping children learn, this stamp, designed by children's books author and illustrator Chris Van Allsburg, was unofficially issued to salute the National PTA or National Congress of Parents and Teachers. The PTA celebrated its 100th anniversary in 1996. Van Allsburg's best-known book is *Jumanji*, a Caldecott medal winner that served as the basis for a 1995 feature film of the same name, featuring Robin Williams.

1996-1997



Fireplace
(booklet)



Tree Decorating
(booklet)



Hanukkah



Dreaming of Santa
(booklet)



Holiday Shopping
(booklet)



DIE CUT 11

Statue of Liberty



32¢ Love



55¢ Love



Helping Children Learn

1997

Citron – 32¢ Anna Maria Sibylla Merian (1647-1717) is recognized as one of the greatest female artists of the 17th century. This stamp, based on her hand-colored, engraved plates, features a citron fruit with a moth in different stages of metamorphosis – the larva, pupa, and adult – and a beetle.

Flowering Pineapple – 32¢ Two varieties of cockroaches are climbing on the flowering pineapple pictured on this stamp based on Merian's artwork. It was issued during National Women's History month.

Clipper Ship and Stagecoach – 32¢ These two issues are America's first triangle stamps. Issued to commemorate San Francisco's Pacific 97 Stamp Exhibition, the stamps feature a mid-19th century clipper ship and a US mail stagecoach – both of which are historically associated with mail delivery in California. The ship design is based on an advertising card for the clipper ship *Richard S. Ely*, by American Harrison Eastman (1823-1886), who was the probable source for the US mail stagecoach design.

Raoul Wallenberg – 32¢ This stamp honors Swedish diplomat, humanitarian, and hero, Raoul Wallenberg.

Using his personal fortune and diplomatic credentials, and ignoring his own safety, Wallenberg saved perhaps 100,000 Jews from Nazi concentration camps. In January 1945, Wallenberg was accused of espionage in Soviet-controlled Hungary. He died in a Moscow prison on July 17, 1947.

Bugs Bunny – 32¢ The Bugs Bunny stamp was issued in conjunction with a campaign to launch the USPS's "Stampers" program. As the official mascot of Stampers, it was hoped the animated character would help revive youth interest in the hobby of stamp collecting. A full-color, 12-page magazine was made available through the USPS Philatelic Fulfillment Service Center for a limited time, as part of the Stampers program.

Humphrey Bogart – 32¢ Humphrey Bogart began acting by accident. While working as an assistant stage manager at a theater, he replaced an actor who missed a performance. He went on to appear in seven hit Broadway shows before starting his career in Hollywood. Bogart won an Oscar for best actor for his performance in *The African Queen*.

1997



Citron



Flowering Pineapple



Clipper Ship



Stagecoach



Raoul Wallenberg



Bugs Bunny



Humphrey Bogart

❧ 1997-1998 ❧

First Supersonic Flight – 32¢ In the early 1940s, aviation scientists had to solve the problem of breaking the “sound barrier” – the sharp increase in aerodynamic drag that aircraft experience as they approach the speed of sound. For this purpose, the Bell Aircraft Company and the National Advisory Committee on Aeronautics built the rocket-powered X-1. On October 14, 1947, the X-1, piloted by Air Force Captain Chuck Yeager, was air-launched from under the bomb bay of a B-29 bomber. Using the X-1’s 6,000 pounds of thrust, Yeager broke the sound barrier, attaining a speed of 700 miles per hour. The 50th anniversary of this historic event was celebrated with a commemorative postage stamp.

Christmas – Traditional – 32¢ Continuing the annual tradition of a religious-themed Christmas stamp, the USPS issued a Madonna and Child stamp featuring 15th-century renaissance artist Sano di Pietro’s *Madonna and Child with Saints and Angels*. The original painting hangs in the National Gallery of Art in Washington, DC.

Christmas – Contemporary – 32¢ Holly has long been a spiritual symbol. This plant remains green all winter, and ancient peoples believed this was a sign that the sun would again warm the Earth. Christians in France and England developed a tradition of hanging the plant over the door of their homes as a sign of faith. In the New World, this tradition was continued with the American holly plant.

Year of the Tiger – 32¢ This stamp is the sixth in the series of Chinese New Year stamps. It features the tiger, the third of twelve animals in the Chinese zodiac. According to Chinese tradition, a person exhibits the same traits as the animal of their birth year. For instance, a person born in the year of the tiger is said to be aggressive, courageous, sensitive, and hugely generous.

However, they can also be undisciplined, unyielding, strong-willed, and impulsive. Any project they undertake will be successful.

Remember the *Maine* – 32¢ Early in 1898, the United States sent the USS *Maine* to Havana Harbor to protect American interests from the growing conflict in Cuba. On February 15, the *Maine* mysteriously exploded, killing approximately 260 servicemen. This event, coupled with the yellow journalism of Joseph Pulitzer, would soon lead to the Spanish-American War.

Cinco De Mayo – 32¢ The third installment in the series of Holiday Celebration Stamps is a joint issue between the United States and Mexico. It celebrates the Mexican holiday of the same name, which means “May 5th.” This holiday is held on the anniversary of the victory of the Battle of Puebla, fought between Mexican and French troops over war debts on May 5, 1862.

Sylvester & Tweety – 32¢ These two Warner Bros. characters have starred in over 41 cartoons and several feature-length films. This stamp joins Bugs Bunny as the second in the Warner Bros. Series.

Wetlands – 5¢ This 5¢ non-profit rate, non-denominated coil stamp was issued to bring attention to the depletion of America’s wetlands and the important part they play in nature. An important habitat for several species of wildlife, wetlands also help control flooding by absorbing large amounts of water.

Diner – 25¢ This 25¢ definitive coil stamp was issued to pay postage for the first-class, presorted letter rate. Bulk mailers could use it for various rates and simply add on the difference at the time of mailing.

1997-1998



First Supersonic Flight



Madonna and Child



American Holly



Year of the Tiger



Battleship *Maine*



Cinco de Mayo



Sylvester & Tweety



Wetlands



Diner

1998-1999

Spanish Settlement of the Southwest – 32¢

With this issue, the Postal service honors Don Juan de Oñate and the men and women who settled New Mexico 400 years ago. These early settlers made important contributions to the unexplored land. They brought new language, food, and culture to America, nine years before the Jamestown Colony.

Giving and Sharing – 32¢ This stamp honors philanthropy. The design, featuring a bee and a flower, illustrates the ultimate sharing relationship. When the bee collects pollen for nourishment, it also pollinates other flowers, ensuring there will be more flowers in the future.

Christmas – Traditional – 32¢ The design on the 1998 stamp features a relief created in a terra cotta workshop in Florence, Italy, around 1425. The name of the master artist responsible for this work of art has never been discovered.

Weather Vane – 1¢ This non-denominated “make-up” rate stamp, combined with a 32¢ stamp, provided the new 33¢ postal rate. This increase went into effect January 1, 1999.

Hat Stamp – 33¢ Due to pending postal rate increases in 1998, the USPS issued a set of non-denominated stamps that feature “Uncle Sam’s hat.” The new postal rate was set at 33¢.

Eagle & Shield – 10¢ Issued on December 14, this 10¢ non-denominated Eagle and Shield stamp pays postage for presorted standard postal rate.

Victorian Love – 33¢ and 55¢ The 33-cent and 55-cent Love stamps are the first-ever cut-to-shape US stamps. Based on Victorian artifacts, their floral-heart designs are patterned after a Valentine card decorated by an unknown German artist in 1895. The 33¢ stamp’s background duplicates a turn-of-the-century American chocolate or biscuit paper-lace box liner. The 55¢ stamp’s shape was taken from an English paper lace Valentine, about 1885.

Hospice Care – 33¢ By combining the efforts of skilled workers and trained volunteers, hospice has become a family-centered, home-based concept of health care for the terminally ill. Today, nearly 3,000 Hospice organizations in the United States and Puerto Rico serve approximately 400,000 people.

1998-1999



Spanish Settlement of the Southwest



Giving and Sharing



Madonna and Child



Weather Vane



Hat
(coil)



Eagle & Shield
(coil)



Love



Love



Hospice Care

1999

Flag over City – 33¢ The artist who created the Flag over City stamp design imagined “Old Glory” and the skyscrapers of a city reaching into a cloudless sky when he thought of America while growing up in Japan. Six Flag over City stamps were issued featuring this design, with a total of 12 different formats. All 12 formats were printed by either the Bureau of Engraving and Printing (BEP) using photogravure, or Avery Dennison using offset lithography. The BEP stamps all have a red year date in the lower-left corner, while the Avery Dennison stamps feature black dates in the same position.

Four Fruit Berries – 33¢ The Four Fruit Berries stamps were issued April 10 at the Ponchatoula Strawberry Festival in Ponchatoula, Louisiana. The event is the largest free two-day festival in Louisiana. Artist Ned Seidler created the Four Fruit Berries stamps. Other stamps illustrated by

Seidler include the African Violet stamp of 1993, four Garden Flowers booklets (released from 1993 to 1996), the Peaches and Pear stamps (1995), and American Holly stamp of 1997.

Daffy Duck – 33¢ Daffy Duck has appeared in more than 120 cartoons, often co-starring with Porky Pig and Bugs Bunny. This stamp joins Bugs Bunny and Sylvester and Tweety as the third stamp in the continuing Warner Bros. Series.

Cinco de Mayo – 33¢ This stamp is based on the 32¢ Cinco de Mayo design of 1998. It is part of the Holiday Celebrations Series. Cinco de Mayo, a holiday commemorating Mexico’s miraculous defeat of an invading French army on May 5, 1862, is a colorful celebration of Mexican history and heritage. It is a day when Mexican people, living in their homeland or the United States, express pride in their country’s accomplishments.

1999



Flag over City
(coil)



Blueberry
(booklet)



Raspberry
(booklet)



Strawberry
(booklet)



Blackberry
(booklet)



Daffy Duck



Cinco de Mayo

1999

Tropical Flowers – 33¢ Issued in a new format described by the USPS as a “convertible booklet,” the Tropical Flowers stamps have 12 stamps on the back side of the release liner paper and eight stamps on the front. Stamps depicting flowers are some of the most popular among collectors and non-collectors alike. The 1999 “Tropical Flowers” stamps are the first illustrated by botanical artist Steve Buchanan. Created as a single piece of art, the four stamps form a continuous design.

John and William Bartram – 33¢ Considered the “Father of American botany,” explorer and naturalist John Bartram (1699-1777) established the oldest existing botanical garden in the United States. His son, William (1739-1823), was a talented artist and author who shared his father’s love of nature. William established the nation’s first nursery and published America’s first plant catalog. At the request of Thomas Jefferson, William participated in the Lewis and Clark Expedition.

Prostate Cancer Awareness – 33¢ Although the occurrence of prostate cancer is rare among men under age 50, experts speculate that most elderly men have at least traces of the disease. It often lies dormant for years, without causing symptoms. But once prostate cancer spreads, it is usually fatal. By issuing the “Prostate Cancer Awareness” stamp, the USPS hopes men are encouraged to discuss the disease with a physician during their annual checkup. After lung cancer, prostate cancer is the leading cause of cancer deaths in men.

General William “Billy” Mitchell – 55¢ Billy Mitchell joined the list of distinguished people honored as part of the Pioneers of Aviation Series, which began in 1978. Mitchell is considered the father of the US Army Air Force, the aviation branch of the US Army that became the US Air Force in 1946. The stamp also pictures Mitchell’s personal SPAD XVI biplane. The aviator’s plane is on display at the US Air Force Museum in Dayton, Ohio.

Honoring Those Who Served – 33¢ As protective service workers, firefighters, police officers, veterans, and other Americans put their lives on the line each and every day. The 1999 “Honoring Those Who Served” postage stamp, issued by the United States Postal Service, remembers the real-life heroes who gave their lives while serving their country. The acts of selfless service made by these men and women have had a profound impact in the US and around the world.

Hanukkah – 33¢ The design of this year’s Hanukkah stamp duplicates the 1996 version with the exception of its updated 33¢ denomination. Both stamps are part of the Holiday Celebrations Series.

Christmas – Traditional – 33¢ The design of the 1999 traditional Christmas stamp is based on a painting by Bartolomeo Vivarini (circa 1432-circa 1499) executed about 1475. Titled *Madonna and Child*, the original painting measures 21 inches by 16.5 inches. The original painting hangs in the National Gallery of Art in Washington, DC.

1999



Bird of Paradise



Royal Poinciana



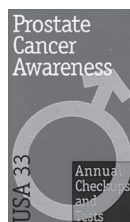
Gloriosa Lily



Chinese Hibiscus



John and William Bartram



Prostate Cancer Awareness



General Billy Mitchell



Honoring Those Who Served



Hanukkah



Madonna and Child

1999-2000

Christmas – Contemporary – 33¢ The 1999 offering of Contemporary Christmas stamps features stylized renditions of leaping deer. The Deer stamps were issued in three formats: booklets of 15, panes of 20, and convertible booklets of 20. Over 1.7 billion Deer stamps were released in the booklet of 20 format.

Kwanzaa – 33¢ This stamp is based upon the design of the 32¢ 1997 Kwanzaa stamp, but updated with a 33¢ denomination. Both stamps are part of the Holiday Celebrations Series.

Year of the Dragon – 33¢ According to the Chinese calendar, 2000 is a Dragon year. Each year, the city of San Francisco hosts a spectacular parade to celebrate the holiday. The year 2000 celebration included a new 200-foot golden dragon which required over 100 handlers to keep it winding

through the city streets.

Patricia Roberts Harris – 33¢ The overwhelming number of accomplishments of Patricia Roberts Harris include being the first black woman to serve as an American ambassador; first woman to head a US law school; and the first black woman to hold a Cabinet position.

Library of Congress – 33¢ The Library of Congress is America's oldest Federal institution and the largest repository of knowledge in the world. The Library celebrated its 200th birthday on April 24, 2000. The collections of the Library, whose main reading room is pictured on the stamp, expand by about 10,000 items every day. Today, the Library of Congress is an authority on books, maps, photographs, motion pictures, and music.

1999-2000



WIDE GOLD FRAME

Deer, red



WIDE GOLD FRAME

Deer, blue



WIDE GOLD FRAME

Deer, purple



WIDE GOLD FRAME

Deer, green



Kwanzaa



PERF. 11

Year of the Dragon



Patricia Roberts Harris



Library of Congress

2000-2001

Wile E. Coyote and Road Runner – 33¢ Wile E. Coyote is always more humiliated than harmed by his failure to catch Road Runner. Even with his faults, the audience's sympathy remains with Wile E., and the hope endures that someday he will catch Road Runner. This stamp is the fourth in the Looney Tunes Series.

Summer Sports – 33¢ This postage stamp honors America's love of summer sports like baseball, swimming, boating, water-skiing, and golf. This stamp is not connected with the Summer Olympic Games which took place September 15 through October 1, 2000, in Sydney, Australia. In 1998, after a variety of conflicts, the USPS and the Olympic committee ended their tradition of collaborating on stamps honoring the games.

Adoption – 33¢ The US issued this postage stamp as a gesture of appreciation to those who have established loving families for less-fortunate children. In ancient times, adoption offered a way for the childless to acquire a legal heir. In the US, Massachusetts passed the first law making adoption legal in 1851. Since the 1960s, the US has witnessed its number of adoptable children decline, while the number of prospective parents increases. More people are adopting abroad, especially from third-world countries, where living conditions may be poor.

The White House – 33¢ The 132-room White House stands in the middle of 18 beautifully landscaped acres at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue in Washington, DC. In 1800, President and Mrs. John Adams were the first occupants of the original executive mansion. Mrs. Adams used the East Room to dry the family laundry. On August 24, 1814, during the War of 1812, British troops burned the mansion to its stone walls. The White House was rebuilt, and President and Mrs. Monroe took residence in 1817. President Theodore Roosevelt authorized "The White House" as the official title in 1901.

Lion Statue – 10¢ This non-denominated "Presorted Standard" stamp was released in self-adhesive coil rolls of 10,000. It is used as postage by mass mailers. The image is a contemporary rendition of one of the

lion statues located at the Fifth Avenue entrance to the New York Public Library.

Flag over Farm – 34¢ Hiro Kimura painted the agricultural scene which appears on this stamp issue. Kimura also created the illustrations which were used on the City Flag and Classroom Flag stamps, both issued in 1999. The "Flag over Farm" stamp continues the popular stamp tradition celebrating the Stars and Stripes – although the design actually features a flag flying at the "bottom" of the design.

Statue of Liberty – 34¢ The photograph used on this stamp was taken by Paul Hardy of New York City. It shows a classic shot of the statue, which was dedicated in 1886.

Art Deco Eagle – 57¢ The self-adhesive Art Deco Eagle stamp was issued first in 55¢ and then as a green-colored 57¢ stamp later in the year to accommodate the rate change for a 2-ounce first-class domestic letter. The Art Deco style was popular in the 1920s and 1930s. The Chrysler Building in New York City is an architectural example of the style. Designer Nancy Stahl based the stamp image on a common decorative pattern found on mailboxes in the lobbies of art deco buildings of that period.

Bison – 21¢ Native Americans hunted huge herds of bison on the Plains thousands of years before European Americans settled there. In the 1870s, cattle ranchers spread into the Plains, railroads were built, and millions of bison were slaughtered. Conservation efforts have brought the bison back from near extinction. A bison shown against the sun on the horizon is the design for this stamp, issued in several formats.

George Washington – 23¢ A bust of George Washington, created by sculptor Jean-Antoine Houdon in 1785, appears on two maroon 20¢ postcard-rate stamps and on the green 23¢ stamps issued after the rate was increased in July. The George Washington bust is exhibited at Mount Vernon, the Virginia home of the first president of the United States.

2000-2001



Coyote & Road Runner



Summer Sports



Adoption



The White House



Lion Statue



DIE CUT 11.25

Flag over Farm



Statue of Liberty
(coil)



DIE CUT 11.25

Flag over Farm



Art Deco Eagle



Bison
(coil)



George Washington
(coil)

2001

Statue of Liberty – 34¢ The photograph used on this stamp was taken by Paul Hardy of New York City. This design, showing a classic shot of the Statue of Liberty, previously appeared on non-denominated stamps which were issued in 2000 to facilitate the first-class rate change.

Flowers – 34¢ The flowers pictured on this set of four 34¢ denominated stamps are Freesia, Cymbidium Orchid, Longiflorum Lily, and Asian Hybrid Lily. They were first seen in a non-denominated version issued for the 2000 rate change. Photographs of the lilies were by Robert Peak Jr., whose father had designed several US stamps many years previously. In 2001, the Four Flowers were issued as coils of 100 and as booklets.

George Washington – 20¢ A bust of George Washington, created by sculptor Jean-Antoine Houdon in 1785, appears on two maroon 20¢ postcard-rate stamps and on the green 23¢ stamps issued after the rate was increased in July. The George Washington bust is exhibited at Mount Vernon, the Virginia home of the first president of the United States.

Apple and Orange – 34¢ Ned Seidler designed the self-adhesive Apple and Orange stamps at the same time as he did the 1995 32¢ Peach and Pear stamps. The Apple and Orange se-tenant pair was

released in 2001, first as a pane of 20 stamps, in convertible booklet form, and later in the year in vending booklets.

Love – 34¢ Long a symbol of devotion, a red rose lies across a handwritten love letter on this 2001 Love stamp. The letter on the non-denominated and on the 34¢ stamp is from John Adams to Abigail Smith, before their marriage and before he became the second president of the US. The 55¢ stamp has a similar design, but uses a letter from Abigail to John.

Year of the Snake – 34¢ 2001 was the Lunar calendar “Year of the Snake.” A “snake year” is thought to be lucky. Called the “little dragon,” the snake is a symbol of good fortune. Those born in the Year of the Snake are said to be wise, decisive, attractive, and charming. This is the ninth stamp in the Lunar New Year Series.

Roy Wilkins – 34¢ Children attend integrated schools today due partly to the efforts of Roy Wilkins, honored on the 24th stamp of the Black Heritage Series. Wilkins was executive secretary and executive director of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People for 22 years. He helped win the 1954 Supreme Court decision which ended segregated education. Wilkins believed that racial equality could be achieved through non-violent, legislative actions.

2001



Freesia
(coil)



Asian Hybrid Lily
(coil)



Orchid
(coil)



Longiflorum
(coil)



Statue of Liberty
(coil)



George Washington
(booklet)



Statue of Liberty
(booklet)



Apple
(booklet)



Orange
(booklet)



Love
(booklet)



Year of the Snake



Roy Wilkins

2001

Diabetes Awareness – 34¢ The Diabetes Awareness stamp is one of a series of stamps issued by the Postal Service to highlight social and public health concerns. Images on the stamp symbolize diabetes testing and research. Millions of Americans have diabetes, but many are unaware that they are diabetic. No cure yet exists, but there are promising areas of investigation.

Peanuts – 34¢ Cartoonist Charles M. Schulz created a comic strip that appeared in newspapers for fifty years. Readers identified with Schulz's pint-sized characters, who became part of modern American culture. In the 1960s, the beagle featured on the stamp climbed on top of his dog house and into his own fantasy. He became a World War I ace pilot pursuing the infamous enemy flyer, the Red Baron.

Honoring Veterans – 34¢ Veterans organizations have a long history in the United States. Originally set up to aid veterans, their families, and the families of fallen soldiers, today's veterans' organizations help their comrades, their communities, and their country through a variety of public service projects.

Atlas Statue – 10¢ The 2001 non-denominated, presorted standard rate stamp was issued to replace the 1998 Green Bicycle stamp. The stamp is based on a photograph by Horst Hamann of the *Atlas* statue that stands outside Rockefeller Center in New York City. Lee Lawrie created *Atlas* in 1937, and Kenneth Lynch made the skeletal, heavenly spheres that *Atlas* supports. An ancient Greek myth tells that *Atlas* was one of the giant gods, called Titans, who tried to overthrow the Olympian gods ruled by Zeus. When the Titans failed and punishment was meted

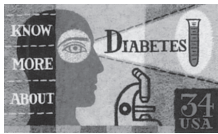
out, *Atlas* was condemned to hold the heavens on his shoulders for all of eternity.

Woody Wagon – 15¢ The Woody Wagon stamp is the sixth design in the American Culture Series that began in 1995. The series includes the Auto Tail Fin, the Juke Box, the Diner, the Lion Statue, and the *Atlas* Statue. The stamp design is based on the wood-paneled vehicles produced between 1929 and 1953 and used variously to transport guests to and from railroad stations, to accommodate family travel, and to carry surfers and their surfboards to the beach. The stamp pictures a 1949 Ford wagon with a surfboard hanging out the back. This non-denominated 15¢, self-adhesive coil was issued to replace the 1995 Auto Tail Fin stamp for the presorted first-class postcard rate.

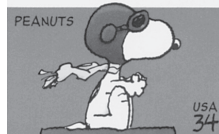
Lucille Ball – 34¢ Star and first lady of comedy, Lucille Ball graces the seventh stamp in the Legends of Hollywood Series. She is best remembered for her enormously successful comedy series, *I Love Lucy*, in which she played opposite her husband, Desi Arnaz. Attractive and vivacious, Lucille Ball generated laughter that still echoes today.

The Amish Quilt – 34¢ The simple, geometric shapes and colors of Amish quilts produce an infinite variety of dramatic, vibrant combinations. Once made only for family use and gifts, Amish quilts are now prized by the outside world. The Amish quilts featured on this stamp se-tenant are traditional designs from Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. They are the first in the new Postal Service series American Treasures.

2001



Diabetes Awareness



Peanuts



Honoring Veterans



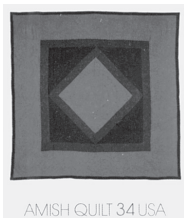
Atlas Statue



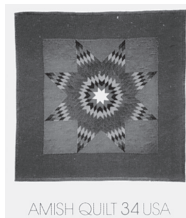
Woody Wagon



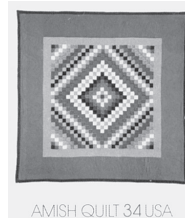
Lucille Ball



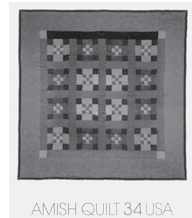
Amish Quilts



Amish Quilts



Amish Quilts



Amish Quilts

❧ 2001-2002 ❧

Carnivorous Plants – 34¢ Growing mainly in nitrogen-poor bogs, carnivorous plants catch and digest insects in order to obtain the nitrogen they need. The plants attract insects just as ordinary plants do, but when an insect lands, a well-designed trap goes into action. This stamp se-tenant shows a Venus flytrap, a yellow trumpet, a cobra lily, and an English sundew as illustrated by artist Steve Buchanan.

Porky Pig – 34¢ Shy, stuttering Porky Pig first appeared in a cartoon in 1935. Warner Bros. developed him into a timid straight man for the comically clever Bugs Bunny and the wildly wacky Daffy Duck. On the fifth and final *Looney Tunes* stamp, Porky Pig, as a mail carrier, delivers a letter bearing another stamp from the series, Wile E. Coyote and Road Runner. The *Looney Tunes* Series was created by the Postal Service to promote the hobby of stamp collecting.

Christmas – Traditional – 34¢ This Holiday Traditional stamp features a detail from a painting by Italian Renaissance artist Lorenzo Costa. Painted in oil on a panel, *Virgin and Child* is in the John G. Johnson Collection at the

Philadelphia Museum of Art.

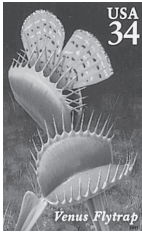
Thanksgiving – 34¢ This issue is the first Holiday Celebrations Series stamp to spotlight Thanksgiving Day. It recalls both historic stories of America's "First Thanksgiving" and more recent memories of traditional family gatherings. A quilted cornucopia pattern on the stamp symbolizes an abundant harvest and the promise of future prosperity.

United We Stand – 34¢ This patriotic definitive was issued after the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. The waving flag and words, "United We Stand," are symbolic of the purpose, pride, and determination that unite the American people.

Mentoring a Child – 34¢ Adult volunteers can supply positive role models for at-risk youngsters. This social issue stamp was designed to raise public awareness of the need for mentoring programs.

Langston Hughes – 34¢ Poet Langston Hughes was known for his colorful, perceptive portrayals of poor, working-class black Americans. He is honored on the 25th issue of the Black Heritage Series.

❧ 2001-2002 ❧



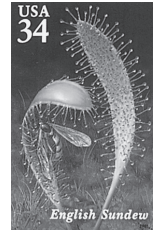
Venus Flytrap



Yellow Trumpet



Cobra Lily



English Sundew



Porky Pig



Virgin and Child



Thanksgiving



United We Stand



Mentoring a Child



Langston Hughes

2002-2003

Happy Birthday – 34¢ Birthday celebrations originally were limited to a country's rulers and nobility, but later spread to the common folk as well. "Happy Birthday!" stamps were issued previously in the 1987 and 1988 Special Occasions Booklets.

Year of the Horse – 34¢ This is the tenth issue of the Chinese New Year Series. Those born in the Year of the Horse are said to be outgoing, athletic, confident, hard-working, and independent.

American Toleware – 5¢ The first in the American Design Series, the American Toleware coil stamp shows traditional Pennsylvania folk art hand painted on a tin coffeepot. Toleware was also seen on the 1979 Folk Art issues.

Star – 3¢ This makeup-rate stamp was designed to

add to previously issued 34¢ stamps to satisfy the increased first-class rate of 37¢.

George Washington – 23¢: This design is a repeat from the previous year's Washington stamps, except for the "2002" year date. A microprinted "USPS" appears on each issue, except for the coils of 100. The microprinting is visible with magnification.

Flag (non-denominated) – 37¢ The non-denominated flag stamp was issued in six formats, to pay the postal rate increase for first-class mail.

Flag (denominated) – 37¢ This flag stamp, issued in several formats, bears a design similar to the earlier, non-denominated flag stamp, except for the designated 37¢ first-class postage rate.

2002-2003



Happy Birthday



Year of the Horse



2002

American Toleware
(coil)



2002 LOWER LEFT

Star



2002

George Washington
(coil)



George Washington
(booklet)



Flag
(coil)



2002

Flag
(coil)



2003
DIE CUT 8½

Flag
(coil)



DIE CUT 11
SQUARE CORNERS

Flag
(booklet)



2002 MICRO USPS

Flag
(booklet)



LARGE 2002 ROUND CORNERS
DIE CUT 10½ x 10½

Flag
(booklet)



LARGE 2003
DIE CUT 8

Flag
(ATM booklet)

2002

Antique Toys (denominated) – 37¢ These stamps are similar to the non-denominated Antique Toys stamps, except they carry the 37¢ first-class postage rate.

Coverlet Eagle – 60¢ Featuring a design from an 1853 woven bedspread or “coverlet,” this stamp was issued to pay the increased 2-ounce postage rate.

John James Audubon – 37¢ Audubon (1785-1851) had a dream of drawing each American bird in “its natural size and colouring.” In *The Birds*

of America, Audubon captured 1,065 individual birds on 435 hand-colored plates. The John James Audubon stamp is the 2002 addition to the American Treasures Series that was introduced in 2001.

Harry Houdini – 37¢ World-renowned escape artist Houdini (1874-1926) offered rewards to anyone who could successfully restrain him. Once, he was even locked in a US mail pouch. He always escaped. The Houdini stamp, when viewed through a special decoder lens, shows Houdini wrapped in chains.



Locomotive
(coil)



Mail Wagon
(coil)



Fire Engine
(coil)



Taxicab
(coil)



Mail Wagon
(booklet)



Locomotive
(booklet)



Taxicab
(booklet)



Fire Engine
(booklet)



Coverlet Eagle



John James Audubon



Harry Houdini

2002

Andy Warhol – 37¢ Warhol (1928-87) was a leader of the 1960s Pop Art movement. Pop artists focused on familiar commercial images that had become part of the popular culture. Warhol became famous in 1962 with silkscreen prints of Marilyn Monroe, dollar notes, and Campbell's soup cans.

Love – 37¢ and 60¢: Love stamps are classified as "special" stamps. They are on sale longer than commemoratives, are usually printed in greater quantities, and may go back to press to meet demand. In 1988, the USPS began issuing an additional Love stamp, at the two-ounce first-class rate, for mailing wedding invitations with reply cards and envelopes.

Ogden Nash – 37¢ American humorist and poet Nash (1902-71) wrote lighthearted, whimsical, and sometimes nonsensical verse. He often used an extremely large poetic license to create comical rhymes and puns. Ogden Nash is the 18th honoree

of the Literary Arts Series.

Duke Kahanamoku – 37¢ The father of international surfing, Kahanamoku (1890-1968) caught the public eye first as a top Olympic swimmer, then as an expert surfer, movie actor, and finally, Hawaii's ambassador of good will.

Irving Berlin – 37¢ For the better part of the twentieth century and through two World Wars, Berlin (1888-1989) composed many of America's most popular songs. Many of his creations, like "White Christmas" and "God Bless America," have become American classics.

Neuter and Spay – 37¢ Samantha, the kitten on the Neuter and Spay stamps, and Kirby the puppy were both adopted from animal shelters. As responsible, caring pet owners their new families had them both neutered.

2002



Andy Warhol



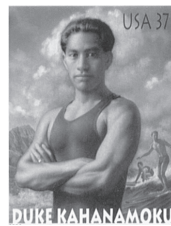
Love



Love



Ogden Nash



Duke Kahanamoku



Irving Berlin



Neuter and Spay – Kitten



Neuter and Spay – Puppy

2002

Christmas – Traditional – 37¢ Featuring artwork by Jan Gossaert, a Renaissance artist from the Netherlands, the design was originally supposed to be used in 2000. However, the Postal Service chose to hold it until after the rate increase of 2002. Gossaert brought the influence of ancient Roman architecture to Northern Flemish painting.

Christmas – Contemporary – 37¢ The 2002 Holiday Snowmen stamps, the first snowmen since 1993, picture small, hand-crafted figures made from a variety of snowless materials.

Cary Grant – 37¢ Movie star Cary Grant debuted in films in 1932 and retired from the screen in 1966. He was equally talented in comedies, romances, and adventure films. Grant received a special Academy

Award in 1970, in recognition of his extraordinary film career.

Sea Coast – 5¢ This non-denominated, non-profit, coil stamp replaces the non-denominated Wetlands stamp issued in 1998.

Happy Birthday – 37¢ This is the third Happy Birthday stamp issued by the USPS. The previous two appeared in the Special Occasions booklets of 1987 and 1988.

Year of the Ram – 37¢ 2003 is the Year of the Ram. Those born in the Year of the Ram are said to be gentle, kindhearted, elegant, wise, shy, charming, artistic, and fond of nature. The Year of the Ram is the eleventh stamp in the Lunar New Year Series.

2002-2003



Snowmen
(booklet)



Snowmen
(booklet)



Snowmen
(booklet)



Snowmen
(booklet)



Madonna and Child



Cary Grant



Sea Coast



Happy Birthday



Year of the Ram

2003-2008

Tiffany Lamp – 1¢ The Tiffany Lamp coil stamp is the third issue of the American Design Series. Louis Comfort Tiffany (1848-1933) designed ornate colored glass lampshades that often featured flowers, fruit, and leaves. This stamp replaced the 1¢ American Kestrel coil stamp.

Navajo Necklace – 2¢ This is the fifth design in the American Design Series. The Navajo Indians began silversmithing in the mid-1800s. The silver and turquoise squash blossom necklace on this stamp is a traditional Navajo motif.

Chippendale Chair – 4¢ The stylized Chippendale Chair is the fourth stamp in the American Design Series. Thomas Chippendale (1718-79) was a British cabinetmaker whose designs were published and copied on both sides of the Atlantic.

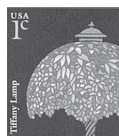
American Toleware – 5¢ First issued in 2002 as a coil stamp with water-activated gum, the Toleware design reappeared in 2004 as a self-adhesive sheet stamp.

American Clock – 10¢ The self-adhesive American Clock stamp is the second issue of the American Design Series that began with the 2002 American Toleware coil stamp. It replaced the 10¢ Red Cloud stamps of 1987-94. The design is from a clock made about 1805 by Simon Willard of Massachusetts.

Wisdom – \$1.00: The design for the Wisdom stamp in the American Culture Series was taken from Lee Lawrie's art deco sculpture, *Wisdom With Light and Sound*, at Rockefeller Center in New York City. Words beneath the relief sculpture are from Isaiah 33:6 in the Old Testament: "Wisdom and knowledge shall be the stability of thy time." The Wisdom stamp is the only issue in the American Culture Series that is not a coil stamp.

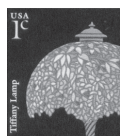
Atlas – 10¢: This non-denominated coil stamp shows the bronze statue of the Greek Titan Atlas that stands in front of Rockefeller Center in New York City. The design first appeared on a 2001 issue.

❧ 2003-2008 ❧



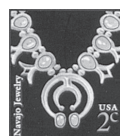
2007
MICRO USPS

Tiffany Lamp



2008

Tiffany Lamp



2004

Navajo Necklace



LARGE 2006

Navajo Necklace



2004

Chippendale Chair



2004

Toleware



2003

American Clock



2003

Wisdom



2003

Atlas
(coil)

2003

Ohio Statehood – 37¢ The Ohio Statehood stamp shows a photograph of a farm north of Marietta, the first permanent settlement in Ohio, founded in 1788. In 2003, Ohio celebrated 200 years of statehood, dating from March 1, 1803. Sometimes called the “Gateway State,” Ohio, with its network of canals, railways, and roads, was an important early link to America’s West.

Pelican Island National Wildlife Refuge – 37¢ The Pelican Island stamp commemorates 100 years since the island became the first National Wildlife Refuge on March 14, 1903. US President Theodore Roosevelt, who signed the executive order for Pelican Island, went on to establish 54 more refuges during his Presidency. Today, there are over 530 National Wildlife Refuges, covering nearly 95 million acres.

Cesar E. Chavez – 37¢ Cesar Estrada Chavez (1927-93) founded the United Farm Workers of America, AFL-CIO. Chavez used nonviolent tactics like fasts, boycotts, strikes, and pilgrimages to achieve protections and rights for hundreds of thousands of farm workers.

Louisiana Purchase – 37¢ The Louisiana region, named for French King Louis XIV, covered territory from the Mississippi River to the Rocky Mountains, between Canada and the Gulf of Mexico. By a treaty dated April 30, 1803, the United States bought the land from France for about \$15 million. The Louisiana Purchase, and the explorations that followed, opened the way for Western expansion in America.

First Flight – 37¢ Wilbur (1867-1912) and Orville (1871-1948) Wright were self-taught inventors and engineers. They built a controlled, powered, heavier-than-air machine that flew for 12 seconds and 120 feet at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, on December 17, 1903.

Purple Heart – 37¢ The Purple Heart is the oldest military decoration in the world that is still in use. Moreover, it is the first award available to the lower ranks. General George Washington ordered the establishment of a badge of distinction for meritorious action on August 7, 1782. He wrote, “The road to glory in a patriot army is thus open to all.” A reprint of this design appeared later in the year.

Sea Coast – 5¢: A water-activated gum version of the 2002 American Scenes Series Sea Coast stamp was issued in 2003. The stamps pay part of the postage on a non-profit organization bulk mailing. A third version of the Sea Coast coil design has die cuts on all four sides. Although distributed on coils of backing paper, the stamps have the appearance of stamps produced as a pane.

Audrey Hepburn – 37¢ Lovely, graceful star of Hollywood films of the 1950s and 1960s, Audrey Hepburn (1929-93) worked opposite some of Hollywood’s most famous leading men – Humphrey Bogart, Fred Astaire, Cary Grant, and Rex Harrison. The ninth honoree of the Legends of Hollywood Series, she headlined in romantic comedies and thrillers, like *Sabrina*, *Breakfast at Tiffany’s*, and *Wait Until Dark*.

2003



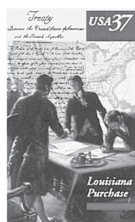
Ohio Statehood



Pelican Island



Cesar Chavez



Louisiana Purchase



First Flight



DIE CUT 10% x 10%

Purple Heart



BLACK 2003
DIE CUT ON 4 SIDES

Sea Coast



Audrey Hepburn

2003



American Eagle – 25¢ This non-denominated coil design paid the presorted first-class rate. The design features a detail of the Great Seal of the United States and was offered in ten two-color combinations.

In 1782, Charles Thomson, secretary of the Continental Congress, chose the American bald eagle to be the emblem of our country on the national seal.

2003



American Eagle



American Eagle



American Eagle



American Eagle



American Eagle



American Eagle



American Eagle



American Eagle



American Eagle



American Eagle

2003-2004

Korean War Veterans Memorial – 37¢ The Korean War Veterans Memorial was dedicated on July 27, 1995. The 19 tall, stainless-steel figures sculpted by Frank Gaylord represent a unit on patrol, moving up the hill. They symbolize members of all the Armed Services. Images of supporting troops are etched on a black granite wall beside the statues. The memorial inscription reads, “Our nation honors her sons and daughters who answered the call to defend a country they never knew and a people they never met.”

Mary Cassatt – 37¢ Celebrated Impressionist painter Mary Cassatt (1844-1926) was born in Pennsylvania, but settled in France. Cassatt used light, bright colors which she spread with rapid, animated brushstrokes. Many paintings feature everyday, affectionate scenes between mothers and children.

The Mary Cassatt stamp se-tenant is the third installment of the American Treasures Series. Four of her paintings are featured: *Young Mother* (1888),

Children Playing on the Beach (1884), *On a Balcony* (1878/79), and *Child in a Straw Hat* (circa 1886).

Roy Acuff – 37¢ Roy Claxton Acuff (1903-92) played minor league baseball until illness ended that career. During his recovery, he learned to play his father’s fiddle and began playing on local radio. His two greatest hits were “Wabash Cannonball” and “The Great Speckled Bird.”

Acuff and his band, the Smoky Mountain Boys, were invited to perform on the *Grand Ole Opry* radio show in 1938. Acuff soon became a regular, as well as the host, of the Opry.

Acuff recorded and performed on the Opry into the 1990s. As performer, music publisher, and the grand master of the *Grand Ole Opry*, Acuff influenced generations of country music artists.

Christmas – Traditional – 37¢ Jan Gossaert’s *Madonna and Child* (circa 1520) appeared on both the 2002 and 2003 traditional Christmas issues.

2003-2004



Korean War Veterans Memorial



MARY CASSATT USA 37

Young Mother



MARY CASSATT USA 37

Children Playing on the Beach



MARY CASSATT USA 37

On a Balcony



MARY CASSATT USA 37

Child in a Straw Hat



Roy Acuff



Madonna and Child

2004

Snowy Egret – 37¢ The long, lacy feathers on the snowy egret once decorated ladies' hats. The birds were hunted almost to extinction in the early twentieth century. The egrets were saved through conservation efforts by the National Audubon Society and others.

Year of the Monkey – 37¢ The Year of the Monkey is the twelfth stamp of the Lunar New Year Series. The Monkey is clever, flexible, and innovative. A person born during this year will be successful at whatever he chooses to do. The year America was born, 1776, was a Monkey year.

Candy Hearts – 37¢ In 1866, Daniel Chase, brother of Oliver Chase – who founded the New England Confectionery Company (NECCO) – invented a process for printing sayings directly on candy. Love notes on the small NECCO hearts were very short, like “Be Mine,” “Marry Me,” and “Cutie Pie.” Candy hearts adorn the 2004 Love stamp.

Paul Robeson – 37¢ Actor, singer, scholar, athlete, humanitarian, and civil rights activist Paul Robeson (1898-1976) was the son of a former slave. Robeson used his deep baritone voice and theatrical talent to promote African and African American history and culture. The Paul Robeson stamp is the 24th in the Black Heritage Series.

Theodor Seuss Geisel – 37¢ Theodor Seuss Geisel (1904-91) wrote under the pen name of Dr. Seuss. He wanted to show children that reading could be fun. Dr. Seuss books usually feature a humorous story in verse with drawings of fantastic creatures like the Cat in the Hat, the Grinch, the Grotz, and the Skrink.

Garden Bouquet & Garden Botanical – 37¢ & 60¢ During Victorian times, lovers sent messages to each other using flowers; each flower had its own meaning. Forget-me-nots, lilacs, and red roses spoke of love; gardenias, orchids, and camellias symbolized beauty; and pink roses and bachelor buttons meant happiness.

2004



2004

Snowy Egret
(coil)



2003

Snowy Egret
(booklet)



Year of the Monkey



Love



Paul Robeson



Theodor Seuss Geisel



Garden Bouquet



Garden Botanical

2004

Henry Mancini – 37¢ Henry Mancini (1924-94) was the most successful film composer of his time. His jazzy style was particularly suited to the light-hearted stories he usually worked on, such as the *Pink Panther* movies.

National World War II Memorial – 37¢ The National World War II Memorial in Washington, DC, is dedicated to all who served during World War II, in the military and on the homefront. Constructed of bronze and granite, the National World War II Memorial is a monument to the spirit, sacrifice, and commitment of the American people. The image of an American flag is visible below the denomination when viewed through a USPS Stamp Decoder lens.

2004 Olympic Games - Athens, Greece – 37¢

The first Olympic Games took place in Athens, Greece, in 776 BC. In 2004, the Olympics returned again to their origin when Athens hosted the XXVIII Olympiad. The phrase “XXVIII Olympiad” is microprinted above the runner’s right foot.

The Art of Disney: Friendship – 37¢ Friendship is the theme of this se-tenant of Disney cartoon characters. Mickey Mouse, Donald Duck, and Goofy represent a bunch of fun-loving pals. Bambi and Thumper, from Disney’s classic movie *Bambi*, are childhood best friends. From the more recent *Lion King* movie, Mufasa and Simba symbolize a friendly relationship between parent and child. Finally, Jiminy Cricket is a kindly and concerned mentor to his young friend Pinocchio, the puppet who became a real boy.

2004



Henry Mancini



World War II Memorial



2004 Olympic Games – Athens, Greece



Mickey, Donald, & Goofy



Bambi & Thumper



Mufasa & Simba



Pinocchio & Jiminy Cricket

2004

R. Buckminster Fuller – 37¢ Best known as the inventor of the geodesic dome, Richard Buckminster Fuller (1895-1983) used multiple tetrahedrons (triangular pyramids) to create the geodesic dome. It was the first building that could sustain its own weight regardless of size. A microprinted “USPS” can be found in the lower-left part of the stamp.

James Baldwin – 37¢ One of the best-known African American writers of the 20th century, James Arthur Baldwin (1924-87) wrote of the destructive power of hatred and the positive power of love and brotherhood. The James Baldwin stamp is the 20th issue in the Literary Arts Series. A microprinted “USPS” can be found on the stamp along the handrail of the building.

Martin Johnson Heade – 37¢ Martin Johnson Heade (1819-1904) had the longest career and possibly the most varied body of work of any American painter of the nineteenth century. Heade’s love of nature led him to specialize in seacoast and marsh landscapes and floral still lifes. This stamp is the fourth issue of the American Treasures Series.

Sea Coast – 5¢: This Sea Coast self-adhesive coil stamp was issued in 2004, but has the date ‘2003’ printed on it. This design is part of the American Scenes Series.

Christmas – Traditional – 37¢ The 2004 traditional Christmas stamp displays Lorenzo Monaco’s lovely *Madonna and Child* (1413), painted in tempera on

panel from a collection in the National Gallery of Art in Washington, DC.

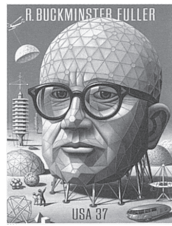
Lorenzo Monaco (ca. 1370-1425) was born Piero di Giovanni, probably in Siena, Italy. In 1391, he took vows as a Benedictine monk of the Camaldolese Congregation of Santa Maria degli Angeli in Florence, Italy. A Renaissance artist of exceptional talent and skill, Lorenzo did exquisite miniatures for choir books, and paintings on wood panels.

Kwanzaa – 37¢ Kwanzaa is a modern African American holiday which is celebrated from December 26 through January 1. Its origin was inspired by African harvest celebrations and African cultural values. The first Kwanzaa stamp was issued in 1997 and then reissued at different rates in three other years. The seven days and seven principles of Kwanzaa are represented on the 2004 Kwanzaa stamp by seven figures in colorful robes.

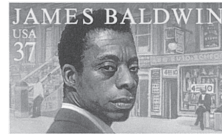
Moss Hart – 37¢ Born and raised in poverty in the Bronx, Moss Hart (1904-61) dreamed of the theater. For several years, Hart directed little theater groups while he set about writing plays. His first attempts were dramas and were all rejected.

Turning to comedy in 1929, Hart wrote a witty satire, *Once in a Lifetime*. It was good enough to win the attentions of George S. Kaufman. The success of that play launched Hart’s career. Together with Kaufman, Hart wrote the comedy hits *You Can’t Take It with You* (1936), a 1937 Pulitzer Prize winner, and *The Man Who Came to Dinner* (1939).

2004



R. Buckminster Fuller



James Baldwin



Martin Johnson Heade



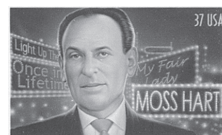
Sea Coast



Madonna and Child



Kwanzaa



Moss Hart

❧ 2004-2005 ❧

Christmas – Contemporary – 37¢ Delicate blown-glass Christmas tree ornaments began in Germany. Early in the 1800s, glassblowers in Lauscha, in the forested Thuringian Mountains of eastern Germany, made large, silvered glass balls named *kugels* that were hung from ceilings for decoration.

Before long, the glassblowers were making small, shiny *kugels* for Christmas trees. In the 1860s, artisans began to blow the hot glass into molds shaped like pine cones, fruits, bells, trumpets, stars, angels, and Santas.

During Queen Victoria's reign, these bright glass ornaments became popular in England and replaced the fresh fruit once used on British Christmas trees. In the 1890s, colorful *Lauscha* ornaments were popularized in America by F.W. Woolworth in his five-and-dime stores.

By 1930, with about 2,000 families producing 300-600 ornaments per week, Lauscha was known as the "Tree Ornament Capital of the World."

After World War II, many *Lauscha* glassblowers escaped to West Germany to continue the hand-blown glass tradition. Today, German glassblowers use antique molds to create enchanting ornaments in traditional designs.

Marian Anderson – 37¢ Marian Anderson (1897-1993) is best remembered for her inspiring performance at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, DC, before a crowd of 75,000. That 1939 concert was arranged by Eleanor Roosevelt after the Daughters of the American Revolution barred Anderson from singing in Constitution Hall because of her race.

Marian Anderson overcame poverty and racism

to become one of the greatest contraltos of the twentieth century. Hers is the 28th stamp in the Black Heritage Series.

Ronald Reagan – 37¢ Ronald Wilson Reagan (1911-2004) was known as the "Great Communicator." A screen test at Warner Brothers in 1937 led to an acting career that lasted nearly 30 years.

Reagan started out as a liberal Democrat, but joined the Republican Party in 1962. He was elected governor of California in 1966 and again in 1970.

Proclaiming the values of work, family, patriotism, and self-reliance, Reagan won a landslide victory in 1980 to become the 40th president of the United States. Reagan ran successfully for a second term in 1984. At 73 years old, he was the oldest man ever elected president.

Love Bouquet – 37¢ For centuries, flowers have been symbols of love. More flowers are sold in the US on Valentine's Day than on any other holiday. Like miniature pieces of fine art, flower designs have appeared on US Love Series stamps since the series began in 1973.

Spring Flowers – 37¢ Three of the plants on the Spring Flowers stamp se-tenant are imports to America. The daffodil is a wild narcissus that came from Europe. The hyacinth and the tulip came from southern Europe and Asia and were brought to western Europe in the early 1500s. The iris is native to temperate climates all over the world.

In most parts of the United States, these flowers can be left in the ground over the winter to bloom again spring after spring.

2004-2005



Purple Santa



Green Santa



Blue Santa



Red Santa



Marian Anderson



Ronald Reagan



Love Bouquet



Hyacinth



Daffodil



Tulip



Iris

2005

Robert Penn Warren – 37¢ Born in Kentucky, Robert Penn Warren (1905-89) was a novelist, poet, and literary critic. One of the best poets of his generation, Warren was more famous for his novels about the South. His works explore the interaction of past and present, the search for individual identity, and the nature of evil. His book *All the King's Men*, following the rise and fall of a ruthless Southern politician, is the most widely read of all his works and won the 1947 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction.

In 1985, he was appointed the first US Poet Laureate. The Robert Penn Warren stamp is the 21st issue of the Literary Arts Series.

Yip Harburg – 37¢ Lyricist E.Y. “Yip” Harburg (1896-1981) was born in New York City. Harburg’s first hit was a song of social commentary. “Brother, Can You Spare a Dime?” (1932) has been called “the anthem of the Depression.”

Harburg wrote lyrics for Hollywood musical songs like “It’s Only a Paper Moon” and “April in Paris.” Harburg’s lyrics for the 1939 classic *The Wizard of Oz* won an Academy Award for his song “Over the Rainbow.” In the course of his long career, Yip Harburg wrote memorable lyrics to more than 500 songs.

Henry Fonda – 37¢ Hollywood actor Henry Fonda appeared in more than 80 films during a career that spanned nearly five decades. This is the eleventh stamp in the Legends of Hollywood Series.

The Art of Disney: Celebrations:

Mickey Mouse and Pluto – 37¢ Walt Disney introduced Mickey Mouse in 1928 in the cartoon *Steamboat Willie*, the first cartoon ever produced with synchronized sound. Mickey went on to star in more than 120 cartoons, but he began to play less of a role.

The unnamed bloodhound who later became Pluto first appeared in the Mickey Mouse cartoon *The Chain Gang* (1930). The Disney director Charles Nichols supervised most of the shorts with Mickey and Pluto in the 1940s. His gentle,

cute approach helped shape the exuberant, playful pup and the cheerful, indulgent master that are celebrating a birthday on the Art of Disney stamp.

Mad Hatter and Alice – 37¢ Lewis Carroll was the pen name of British preacher and mathematics professor Charles L. Dodgson (1832-98) of Oxford College, England. During a boating party on the Thames River in 1862, one of the guests, ten-year-old Alice Liddell, grew restless and begged Dodgson for a story “with lots of nonsense in it.”

Later, Alice asked Dodgson to write the story down for her, and in 1865, he published it under the title *Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland*. Walt Disney adapted *Alice* in the late 1940s. Disney’s animated feature film was released in 1951.

Ariel and Flounder – 37¢ A writer of novels and plays, Hans Christian Andersen (1805-75), was best known for stories like “The Ugly Duckling” and “The Princess and the Pea” from his *Fairy Tales and Stories* (1835-72). The third volume of these tales, published in 1837, contained the story “The Little Mermaid.”

Both the Andersen and Disney tales deal with the longing of a beautiful young mermaid named Ariel. In Andersen’s story, Ariel longs to be human so she will have an immortal soul. In Disney’s version, Ariel longs to be human so the prince will love and marry her.

Snow White and Dopey – 37¢ *Snow White* is an old German folktale, preserved in written form by Jakob (1785-1863) and Wilhelm (1786-1859) Grimm. The story tells of a princess who survives the murderous efforts of a jealous queen with the help of seven dwarfs.

Walt Disney adapted the Grimm brothers’ *Snow White*, removing some of the violence of the original story and expanding the romantic theme. *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs* was Disney’s first full-length animated feature film. The film took almost four years and \$1.7 million to create. It was released in 1937.

2005



Robert Penn Warren



Yip Harburg



Henry Fonda



Mickey & Pluto



Mad Hatter & Alice



Ariel & Flounder



Snow White & Dopey

2005

America on the Move: '50s Sporty Cars:

Studebaker Starliner – 37¢ After World War II, Studebaker commissioned the Raymond Loewy studio to design a new car for young drivers. Widely considered the first American sports car, the 1953 Studebaker Starliner was long, low, and racy.

The Starliner had most of the handling qualities of European sports cars with some of the comfort and most of the durability of the American family car. As for speed, at a time when most auto manufacturers were increasing horsepower, Studebaker President Harold Vance declared, “100 miles per hour should be fast enough for anybody.”

Kaiser Darrin – 37¢ The Kaiser-Frazer Company’s stylish sports car, the Kaiser Darrin, was first shown in Los Angeles in 1952, but was not in production until 1954.

The two-seater had a three-position Landau top. It was long and low with a tiny, v-shaped grille and tiny, v-shaped parking lights. Retractable doors slid forward into the front fenders. A total of 435 Kaiser Darrins were made that year.

Chevrolet Corvette – 37¢ In January 1953, Chevrolet introduced designer Harley Earl’s “dream car” at the GM Motorama in New York. The 300 cars produced in 1953 were hand-built with a unique fiberglass construction. The 1953 Corvette had the sleek, low-slung body of a European sports car.

The Corvette was not a true sports car, however. The two-seater had an inadequate two-speed automatic transmission and was under-powered.

Nash Healey – 37¢ In February 1952, the new Nash Healey sports car was unveiled at the Chicago Automobile Show. The elegant roadster had a six-cylinder Nash engine and power train made in Wisconsin. These were shipped to England and installed in a Healey chassis.

The last stop on this international assembly line

was Italy, where a hand-built, custom body by Pinin Farina was added. Only 150 of the 1952 model Nash Healeys were built.

Ford Thunderbird – 37¢ After Chevrolet came out with the Corvette, Ford designer Frank Hersey developed a competitive model. The Thunderbird came to market in the fall of 1954 and received 3,500 orders in the first ten days of sale. The American public purchased 16,155 Thunderbirds that first year.

Ford did not market the T-bird as a sports car, however, but as a personal luxury car. A Ford ad described the 1955 Thunderbird as “Seventh Heaven on Wheels.”

Child Health – 37¢ At the beginning of the 20th century, infection caused most of children’s illness and death. More recently, motor vehicle accidents have been the leading cause of death of five- to nine-year-olds. Four of the risk factors for diabetes, heart disease, and cancer usually begin in childhood – tobacco use, obesity, unhealthy diet, and inadequate exercise.

The “Child Health” stamp reminded Americans to guard children’s health. With regular medical exams, proper use of car seats, reduced tobacco use, more physical exercise, and a nutritious diet, children have a better chance to become healthy adults.

Christmas – Contemporary – 37¢ The earliest cookies may date back to 7th-century Persia, one of the first countries to grow sugar cane. Early cooks prepared sweet baked goods for important occasions. A cookie-sized amount of cake batter was baked first to test oven temperatures.

Many Asian recipes and ingredients (nuts, spices, and dried fruits) were brought to Europe in the Middle Ages by returning crusaders. *Lebkuchen*, a German honey cookie, was the first traditional Christmas cookie. Early settlers and later immigrants brought their holiday cookie recipes to the US.

2005



1953 Studebaker Starliner USA 37

1953 Studebaker Starliner



1954 Kaiser Darrin USA 37

1954 Kaiser Darrin



1953 Chevrolet Corvette USA 37

1953 Chevrolet Corvette



1952 Nash Healey USA 37

1952 Nash Healey



1955 Ford Thunderbird USA 37

1955 Ford Thunderbird



Child Health



Santa
(booklet)



Snowmen
(booklet)



Angel
(booklet)



Elves
(booklet)

2005-2006

Lady Liberty and Flag – 39¢ To accommodate a proposed first class mail rate change, the USPS issued this design as a non-denominated stamp. It appeared in several different formats at the end of 2005.

Love: True Blue – 39¢ This non-denominated Love stamp features two bluebirds. For centuries, doves, lovebirds, and bluebirds have all been used to symbolize romantic love, faithfulness, and happiness. Bluebirds symbolize faithfulness because they are “true blue.” In medieval Coventry, England, dyers used a blue dye that did not fade. The phrase “true as Coventry blue” was eventually shortened to “true blue.”

2006 Olympic Winter Games – 39¢ In 1924, the first Olympic Winter Games were held in Chamonix, France. Sixteen nations sent 294

athletes to the games.

Many sports of the Olympic Winter Games trace their origins back hundreds, even thousands, of years. Skating was an ancient form of rapid travel across frozen lakes, rivers, and canals. Skiing has long transported people and goods in icy lands. Curling started in 16th-century Scotland, played on frozen ponds, lochs, and marshes. Viking sleds (*luge* in French) existed as early as 800 AD.

Our Wedding – 39¢ Doves have been a traditional wedding symbol for thousands of years. The dove represented innocence to the ancient Egyptians, love and devotion to the early Greeks and Romans, and peace and longevity to the ancient Chinese. Doves are an appropriate symbol for eternal love since the birds mate for life.

2005-2006



Lady Liberty & U.S. Flag
(booklet)



LARGE DATE
DIE CUT 10½ x 10½

Lady Liberty & U.S. Flag
(booklet)



Lady Liberty & U.S. Flag
(coil)



DIE CUT 8½

Lady Liberty & U.S. Flag
(coil)



DIE CUT 11¼ x 10½

Lady Liberty & U.S. Flag
(booklet)



Love



2006 Olympic Winter Games



Our Wedding

2006

Common Buckeye – 24¢ The Common Buckeye butterfly is found across much of the United States in the summer season. In autumn, hordes of the butterflies along the East Coast migrate south. The eyespots on the wings serve to startle predatory birds.

Sugar Ray Robinson – 39¢ Boxer Sugar Ray Robinson (1921-89) was born Walker Smith, Jr. He was raised in New York and learned to box in a Harlem gym. In 1940, after taking the New York Golden Gloves championship, 19-year-old Sugar Ray turned pro.

Robinson won his first 40 fights before losing one. Then, he did not lose for another eight years. In 1946, he became the welterweight champion. In 1951, he took the middleweight title. During his professional career, Sugar Ray Robinson had 175 wins, including 109 knockouts. His record included a 91-fight winning streak.

The Art of Disney: Romance – 39¢ Mickey and Minnie Mouse have been romantically linked for decades in many animated, short feature films. Walt Disney created Minnie Mouse as a love interest for his new star, Mickey Mouse. Spunky Minnie was designed to be a flapper, like fashionable girls of the period. Mickey and Minnie were first seen together

in *Plane Crazy*, released in May 1928.

Cinderella, or cinder maiden, is the heroine of an old folk tale. More than 500 versions of the story have been found in Europe alone. The familiar English version of Cinderella is from Charles Perrault's *Cendrillon* (1697). Walt Disney adapted Perrault's story to make his feature-length animated film *Cinderella* (1950). In a charming variation, Disney created several animal friends for Cinderella, all with distinctive characters.

The "Beauty and the Beast" story that is familiar to most people is a 1756 adaptation by Madame Prince de Beaumont of an old folk tale that appeared in many cultures. The message is that true beauty is within. Disney's film *Beauty and the Beast* was based on Beaumont's telling of the tale. The movie was nominated for an Academy Award for Best Picture in 1992.

Puppy love is the theme of Disney's film *Lady and the Tramp* (1955). It was the first animated feature produced in the widescreen process, CinemaScope. The main character of Ward Greene's story *Happy Dan, the Whistling Dog* was the basis for the mutt named Tramp. The most famous scene of the movie is the kiss the two dogs share while nibbling on the same strand of spaghetti.

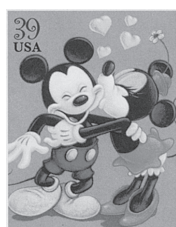
2006



Common Buckeye
(coil)



Sugar Ray Robinson



Mickey & Minnie



Cinderella & Prince Charming



Belle & Beast



Lady & the Tramp

2006

Love: True Blue – 39¢ The 2006 Love design was issued in May as a denominated stamp. Artist Craig Frazier arranged paper cut-outs of two bluebirds to form a heart in the space between them.

Katherine Ann Porter – 39¢ Novelist and short-story writer Katherine Anne Porter (1890-1980) was born in Indian Creek, Texas, a great-great-granddaughter of Daniel Boone. Porter's long short stories are written in flawless prose, with a complexity usually found only in novels.

She received national acclaim for her collection, *Pale Horse, Pale Rider* (1939). Her *Collected Short Stories* (1965) won Porter the Pulitzer Prize for fiction. *Ship of Fools* (1962) was Porter's only novel and a best-seller. It is about the kind of lazy, foolish, and irresponsible people who made the rise of fascism possible.

AMBER Alert – 39¢ AMBER stands for America's Missing: Broadcast Emergency Response. The AMBER plan was created in 1997 after nine-year-old Amber Hagerman was kidnapped in Arlington, Texas, and then brutally murdered.

An AMBER Alert goes out when there is information on the abducted child, captor, or captor's vehicle, and when the child is at risk of serious injury or death. AMBER Alerts then interrupt regular programming on radio and television and appear on electronic highway signs. All 50 states now have AMBER Alert plans.

The 1606 Voyage of Samuel de Champlain – 39¢ Samuel de Champlain (1567-1635) was a French explorer, navigator, and geographer. This stamp commemorates the 400th anniversary of Champlain's 1606 explorations of the Atlantic coast from Nova Scotia to Cape Cod. Champlain's maps defined the basic geography of the region for much of the 17th century.

Judy Garland – 39¢ Judy Garland (1922-69) was born Frances Gumm in Grand Rapids, Minnesota, the daughter of vaudeville performers. After the family moved to California in 1927, Garland made hundreds of live vaudeville and radio appearances with her two older sisters. In 1935, she auditioned for MGM and was signed immediately.

The teenage Garland won a special Oscar for her portrayal of Dorothy in *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz* (1939). She starred in several other musicals and in the Andy Hardy film series with Mickey Rooney.

Garland left MGM in 1950 for a successful concert career, giving over 1,100 performances. She returned to films in *A Star is Born* (1954). Her role in that movie earned her an Academy Award nomination.

Famous for her husky, trembling singing voice, Judy Garland is the twelfth honoree in the USPS's Legends of Hollywood Series.

Happy Birthday – 39¢ The design for the Happy Birthday stamp made its third appearance in 2006.

It first appeared as a 34¢ stamp on February 8, 2002, then was reissued with a 37¢ denomination on October 25, 2002.

Baseball Sluggers – 39¢ Most players only get a hit 25 percent of the time (a batting average of .250). The ball players honored on the "Baseball Sluggers" stamps all have higher batting averages than that: Roy Campanella – .276; Hank Greenberg – .313; Mel Ott – .304; and Mickey Mantle – .298.

Philadelphia native Roy Campanella (1921-93) was a catcher in the American Negro Leagues and Major League Baseball. Campanella signed a Brooklyn Dodgers' contract in 1946. A smart and skilled catcher, he was also impressive at bat. He averaged more than 85 runs batted-in per year over the course of his career. Campanella played every All-Star Game from 1949 to 1956 and was in the 1949, 1952, 1953, and 1955, and 1956 World Series. In 1969, he was the second African American player inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame. After a car accident in 1958, Roy Campanella was paralyzed from the chest down and confined to a wheelchair for the rest of his life.

Henry Benjamin Greenberg (1911-86), baseball's first Jewish superstar, was born in New York. A powerful slugger, Greenberg earned the nickname "Hammerin' Hank." Even though he had only nine full seasons, he had a career total of 331 home runs and averaged more than 141 runs batted-in per year played. Greenberg was the first American League player to enlist after the attack on Pearl Harbor. The 34-year-old war hero returned in 1945 and hit a home run in his first game back. Hank Greenberg played in four World Series (1934-35, 1940, 1945) and on five All-Star teams (1937-40, 1945).

Melvin Thomas Ott (1909-58) was born in Gretna, Louisiana. At 16, he joined a semi-pro team near New Orleans and was an immediate sensation. The owner sent him to Giants' manager John McGraw. At 19 years old, he became the New York Giants' regular right fielder and was outstanding in that position. Ott stayed with the Giants 22 seasons, playing in three World Series. He was an All-Star every year from 1934 to 1945. When he retired, he had 511 career home runs, the first National Leaguer to hit 500. He averaged more than 80 runs batted-in per year. Ott also held the National League career record in bases on balls, mostly because pitchers grew wary of him early in his career.

Mickey Mantle (1931-95) hit 536 home runs and averaged 83 runs batted-in per year over the course of his career. His father named him in honor of baseball great Mickey Cochrane and taught him to hit right- and left-handed. As a teenager in Oklahoma, Mantle developed great strength from working summers in the lead mines and doing farm chores. That strength enabled him to hit long home runs. In 1960, he hit a ball against the Detroit Tigers that was estimated to have gone 643 feet. Mantle played 18 years for the New York Yankees. He was in 16 All-Star games and seven World Series.

2006



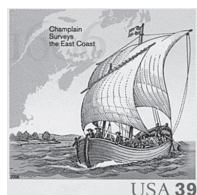
Love



Katherine Ann Porter



AMBER Alert



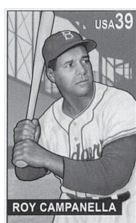
Samuel de Champlain



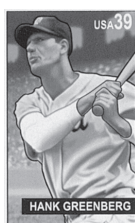
Judy Garland



Happy Birthday



Roy Campanella



Hank Greenberg



Mel Ott



Mickey Mantle

2006



Quilts of Gee's Bend – 39¢ The quilters of Gee's Bend, Alabama, are descended from freed slaves. Women designed and stitched quilts to keep their families warm, using recycled fabrics. The bold, geometric style of these quilts resembles modern abstract paintings.

In the 1930s, Gee's Bend quilts sold for two dollars. Now, having been discovered by the outside world and displayed in museums across the country, top Gee's Bend quilts sell for as much as \$35,000. The Quilts of Gee's Bend stamps are part of the American Treasures Series.

2006



Housetop



Pig in a Pen



Nine Patch



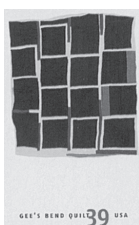
Housetop/Log Cabin



Roman Stripes



Chinese Coins



Blocks and Strips



Medallion



Bars and Columns



Medallion & Checkered Center

❧ 2006-2007 ❧

Christmas – Traditional – 39¢ This traditional holiday stamp features *Madonna and Child with Bird*, attributed to Peruvian artist Ignacio Chacón and painted around 1765. Chacón was active from about 1745 to 1775 in the town of Cuzco, Peru. *Madonna and Child with Bird* combines a bird, a sacred symbol for South American Incas, with the very European image of Mary and Jesus. The Incas revered birds for being able to fly close to the sun god *Inti*. Colonial artists often put birds or feathers in paintings of the Madonna and Child to symbolize their divinity.

Christmas – Contemporary – 39¢ Snowflakes are the subject of this holiday stamp. Snowflakes are made of 2 to 200 separate snow crystals that have formed around tiny bits of dirt in the atmosphere. No two crystals are alike. Falling snow crystals stick to one another to form snowflakes if they pass through warmer air. The average snowflake is about 0.4 inches across. The biggest snowflake reported in the US measured 15 inches. It fell on January 28, 1887, at Fort Keough, Montana.

Ella Fitzgerald – 39¢ The 30th honoree of the Black Heritage series, Ella Fitzgerald (1917-96) had a pure, ageless voice that spanned three octaves. During her career, she recorded over 200 albums, won 13 Grammy awards, and sold over forty million albums. She once stated “The only thing better than singing is more singing.”

With Love and Kisses – 39¢ For one hundred years, Americans have been enjoying delicious

silver-wrapped confections affectionately known as Hershey’s Kisses. The Love and Kisses stamp was issued in time to allow Americans to sweeten the envelopes of their Valentine’s Day messages.

Forever – 41¢ Self-adhesive booklet stamps printed by Ashton Potter. Microprinted with a small-type FOREVER to the right of the bell. Die cuts are 1 1/4 x 10 3/4.

American Flag – 41¢ America’s Stars and Stripes contains 50 white stars, one for each state in the Union, and 13 red and white stripes, representing the original 13 colonies. The flag is America’s proud symbol of independence.

Bighorn Sheep – 17¢ The majestic bighorn sheep is found in both the hottest deserts of the American Southwest and the coldest heights of the Rocky Mountains.

Males (rams) have large, thick, curving horns that can weigh up to 30 pounds. The horns of females (ewes) are less curved and thinner. Their diet consists of grass and clover during the warmer seasons and woody plants in colder weather.

Because of sensitivity to their environment, bighorn sheep are an excellent indicator of the quality of the land they inhabit.

Florida Panther – 26¢ Stamp satisfying the new 2007 post card rate depicts a highly stylized drawing of Florida’s state animal, the Florida Panther. One of earth’s most endangered mammals, less than 100 of the tawny brown Florida Panthers exist today in South Florida.

2006-2007



Madonna and Child with Bird



Spindly Arms
(booklet)



Leafy Arms
(booklet)



Ella Fitzgerald



Large Center
(booklet)



Wide Center Arms
(booklet)



With Love and Kisses



SMALL MICRO FOREVER

Forever



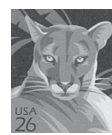
American Flag
(coil)



Bighorn Sheep



Bighorn Sheep
(coil)



Florida Panther
(coil)

2007

Hearts – 41¢ Two wedding stamps feature the heart shape. The heart has been the universal symbol of love for thousands of years. Ancient Greeks believed that the heart was the source of the deepest and most sincere human emotions. Vine designs with heart-shaped leaves graced Minoan clay vessels dating to 2000 BC.

Later, Romans and then Christians adopted heart-shaped leaves, representing eternal love, to decorate the tombs of their dead. The transformation from heart-shaped leaves to the familiar red heart we see today is found in book illustrations dating back to medieval Europe. Then, as now, the red heart symbolizes romantic love.

Patriotic Banner – 10¢ The patriotic banner non-denominated stamp is a representational image of the US Stars and Stripes flag. The pattern and colors of the flag have the power to bring comfort and inspire patriotism to Americans in times of trouble.

Louis Comfort Tiffany – 41¢ Louis Comfort Tiffany (1848-1933) is best known for his creations of stained glass windows and lamps. He established a glassmaking firm in 1885 which became known as Tiffany Studios. Early examples of Tiffany's work include a remarkable

chapel interior, exhibited at the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago. The 2007 US commemorative stamp pictures Tiffany Studios' *Magnolias and Irises*, designed around 1908.

Beautiful Blooms – 41¢ USPS issued a booklet containing ten flowers in 2007.

Each of the flowers evokes thoughts of special occasions, wonderful scents, and other memories often associated with flowers. But blooms offer more than just beauty. Some, like the chrysanthemum, tulip, and dahlia, are edible. Others, like poppies, are used to make pain-relieving drugs such as morphine. Coneflowers are used to boost the immune system and help fight off colds and flu. Gerbera daisies filter the air, reducing harmful indoor pollutants like formaldehyde and benzene. Iris are used at funerals to remind mourners of the promise of resurrection. And in the Hindu religion, the god Vishnu often stands on a symbolic water lily.

Flowers are ancient, and blooms have been found in fossils that are estimated to be 125 million years old. One of the oldest, the magnolia, is so old it evolved before bees, and so is pollinated by beetles.

2007



USA 41

Hearts



DIE CUT 11

Patriotic Banner



Patriotic Banner



Louis Comfort Tiffany



USA 41

Chrysanthemum
(booklet)



USA 41

Gerbera Daisy (Orange)
(booklet)



USA 41

Iris
(booklet)



USA 41

Dahlia
(booklet)



USA 41

Magnolia
(booklet)



USA 41

Gerbera Daisy (Red)
(booklet)



USA 41

Water Lily
(booklet)



USA 41

Poppy
(booklet)



USA 41

Coneflower
(booklet)



USA 41

Tulip
(booklet)

2007

American Flag – 41¢ Nicknamed “Old Glory,” the American flag is recognized worldwide as a symbol of this country’s principles, special rights, and liberties. Legend tells that seamstress Betsy Ross created the first Stars and Stripes flag for George Washington during the Revolutionary War. Known as the Betsy Ross Flag, this symbol of America’s struggle for freedom had the same 13 stripes as today. However, with every state added to the Union, another white star has been added to the 13 stars on the original flag.

The Art of Disney: Magic – 41¢ Walt Disney (1901-66) was a man of vision who was interested in art from a young age. Many think Disney’s most famous character, Mickey Mouse, was based on Disney himself. Mickey made his debut in the 1928 Disney cartoon *Steamboat Willie*, eventually starring in over 120 cartoons, movies, and the television show *The Mickey Mouse Club*. Disney credited his ability to realize his dream of “entertaining people... bringing

pleasure, particularly laughter, to others...” to the fantastic financial success of Mickey Mouse.

Celebrate! – 41¢ The 2007 “Celebrate!” postage stamp was issued by the US Postal Service to acknowledge special occasions like birthdays, anniversaries, engagements, and other days worthy of a celebration.

James Stewart – 41¢ The 13th honoree of the Legends of Hollywood Series, James “Jimmy” Stewart (1908-97) starred in over 200 films. He may be best known for *It’s a Wonderful Life*, a movie that has been a Christmas tradition since its release in 1946.

Jury Duty – 41¢ The Sixth Amendment to the United States Constitution guarantees every defendant the right to a trial by a jury of their peers. Jury duty is compulsory, and is a method for average citizens to ensure that justice is rendered and liberty preserved.

2007



American Flag
(coil)



Sorcerer's Apprentice



Peter Pan & Tinker Bell



Dumbo & Timothy Mouse



Aladdin & Genie



Celebrate!



James Stewart



Jury Duty

2007-2008

Aurora Borealis – 41¢ The spectacular colored lights of the *aurora borealis* can be seen in an oval area centered around the North Pole. The lights are the result of a collision between solar wind-driven charged particles and atoms of gases in the Earth's protective atmosphere.

Aurora Australis – 41¢ *Aurora australis* light shows develop over Antarctica. Because that continent has 24 hours of daylight from September through March, as well as Earth's coldest temperatures, the lights are rarely seen by humans.

Christmas – Traditional – 41¢ The 2007 traditional Christmas stamp was reproduced from *The Madonna of the Carnation*, a painting by Bernardino Luini (circa 1480-1532). Luini was a student of Leonardo da Vinci in Milan, and his work is so similar to his teacher's that some of his art was originally credited to da Vinci. He is well known for his frescoes (paintings on plaster), which decorate many churches in and around Milan. The Madonna wears the "Luinesque" half-

smile with downcast eyes, made famous by Luini. The Madonna has appeared on a US Christmas stamp almost every year since 1966.

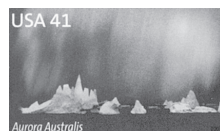
Year of the Rat – 41¢ The Year of the Rat was the first in a new series of Chinese Lunar New Year stamps. According to legend, 12 animals raced to determine their order in the lunar cycle. As the animals raced across the river, the rat rode on the ox's back, jumping ahead at the last minute, making it the first animal in the lunar cycle. People born in the year of the rat are said to be adaptable, clever, and ambitious.

American Flag 24/7 – 42¢ The American flag, a symbol of our country's triumph over oppression and our dream of freedom, was honored on a set of four 2008 US postage stamps. The set, titled "American Flag 24/7," shows the American flag at four different times of day – sunrise, noon, sunset, and night. In 1942, Congress issued a set of guidelines detailing the proper treatment of our nation's most sacred banner.

2007-2008



Aurora Borealis



Aurora Australis



Madonna and Child



Year of the Rat



SQUARE CRNRS.

Flag at Dusk



SQUARE CRNRS.

Flag at Night



SQUARE CRNRS.

Flag at Dawn



SQUARE CRNRS.

Flag at Midday

2008

Purple Heart – 42¢ The Purple Heart is one of the oldest military awards worldwide that is open to all who are wounded in battle. The Badge of Military Merit (the predecessor of the Purple Heart) was first awarded on August 7, 1782, by General George Washington.

Today, a person must be a member of the US Armed Forces and wounded or killed in action to be awarded the Purple Heart.

Frank Sinatra – 42¢ Frank Sinatra (1915-98), dubbed “Ol’ Blue Eyes” by his fans, made 1940s bobby-soxers swoon. He was one of only a few performers with record sales of over 500 million. During his show business career of more than half a century, Sinatra appeared in 58 films, including both musicals and serious dramas. In 1953, he won an Academy Award as best supporting actor for his role in *From Here to Eternity*.

Minnesota Statehood – 42¢ Most of the state

was purchased by the United States from France in 1803 as part of the Louisiana Purchase. As a result of the efforts of territorial delegate Henry M. Rice, Minnesota joined the Union as the 32nd state on May 11, 1858.

Love: All Heart – 42¢ The stylized heart shape is the universal symbol for passion and love. There are many theories that seek to explain how the heart shape came to represent love. The use of hearts to symbolize romantic love flourished in the Victorian age. Today, stylized pink or red hearts adorn gifts given as a token of love and friendship.

Wedding Hearts – 42¢ Hearts have long been the symbol of love and often associated with weddings. The heart-shaped, intertwined vine featured on the 59¢ Wedding Series stamp was designed to be used on a two-ounce wedding invitation, while the 42¢ stamp mails a one-ounce letter.

2008



Frank Sinatra

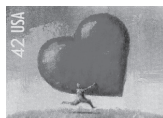


2008
DIE CUT 11¼ x 10¼

Purple Heart



Minnesota Statehood



Love: All Heart



Wedding Heart

2008

Flags of Our Nation, Set I – 42¢ Each stamp in the series features the state or territory’s flag accompanied by a symbolic “snapshot” of the state. These include common scenes and activities in the state as well as rare wildlife and breathtaking landscapes that are normally associated with the state.

The US flag, officially adopted on June 14, 1777, is one of the most enduring symbols of the American people and their principles. The blue-starred field represents the 50 states of America, with each star representing a new constellation. The 13 red stripes commemorate the 13 original Colonies.

Designed after the Secession Convention, Alabama’s first official flag was known as the “Republic of Alabama” flag. During the Civil War, Alabama recognized the Confederate States of America flag as its own. With the Union restored, Alabama authorized a “crimson cross of St. Andrew on a field of white” as its official flag, effective February 16, 1895.

Designed by John Bell “Benny” Benson, a 13-year-old orphaned Aleut Indian, the Alaska flag was formally adopted in May 1927. The flag’s blue background represented the sky and the forget-me-not, Alaska’s state flower. Against this background are eight gold stars to represent the Big Dipper, a symbol of strength, and the North Star, to represent Alaska’s future as the northernmost US state.

The eagle on the American Samoa flag represents the territory’s relationship with the United States. The eagle, a symbol of power, protection, and friendship with the US, is seen clutching two items that are significant to the Samoan culture. In one talon it holds the *uato*, a war club symbolic of power. In the other talon it carries the *fie*, a ritual stick that symbolizes the wisdom of the councils.

The top half of the Arizona state flag symbolizes the original 13 American colonies and the western-setting sun. The copper star signifies Arizona’s status as the largest copper-producing state in the US. The red and yellow colors found in the rays of the setting sun represent the colors flown by Francisco Vasquez de Coronado and the Spanish conquistadors.

Arkansas’ state flag features a white diamond on a red field, recognizing Arkansas as the only diamond-producing state at the time of the flag’s creation. The blue band surrounding this diamond features 25 stars, representing Arkansas’ place as the 25th state admitted to the Union. The three stars below the state name represent the three countries to which the territory has belonged. The lone top star is representative of Arkansas’ membership in the Confederate States of America.

The California state flag centers around a large grizzly bear. Chosen as a symbol of strength, the grizzly bear is native to the state of California. The flag also has a single, red, five-pointed star and the words “California Republic,” a testament to the commitment to independence of the early California settlers.

Colorado’s state flag utilizes elegant simplicity to evoke a number of significant meanings. The field consists of three stripes – two blue and one white. The blue is meant to symbolize Colorado’s clear blue skies as well as the state flower, the columbine. The white stripe across the middle is said to represent the state’s famous snow-capped mountains, while the red of the “C” (which stands for Colorado) reflects the color of most of the state’s soil. The gold disc in the center of the “C” is meant to signify the state’s history in gold mining and ample sunshine.

The Connecticut state flag consists of a blue field behind the State Seal of Connecticut. The shield, created in the *rococo* design (recognizable for its elaborate curvature) on the seal bears three grapevines, a symbol of good luck, peace, and proof of God’s greatness. The vines are representative of the colony carried over and planted in the unfamiliar world.

Delaware’s state flag has a buff-colored diamond on a colonial blue background, representing General George Washington’s uniform. The diamond is a reference to an early nickname, The Diamond State, because of Delaware’s small size and great value. Inside the diamond is the Delaware coat of arms. A farmer and soldier hold up a shield with a wavy blue line (representing the Delaware River), a cow, wheat, corn, and a boat.

2008



USA



Alabama



Alaska



American Samoa



Arizona



Arkansas



California



Colorado



Connecticut



Delaware

2009

Flags of Our Nation, Set III – 42¢ US Postal Service Deputy Postmaster General Patrick Donahoe recognized the importance of our state flags, saying that they “represent contributions these states have made to the development and growth of our nation.”

Featured on the navy blue flag of Kentucky is its state seal. The seal pictures a frontiersman and a statesman. Popular opinion claims the men are Daniel Boone (who explored Kentucky) and Henry Clay (the state’s most famous politician). The flag also features the state motto, “United We Stand, Divided We Fall,” an excerpt from “The Liberty Song,” popular around the time of the American Revolution. The flag was designed by art teacher Jesse Cox and adopted in 1918.

The state flag of Louisiana features the state seal, named “pelican in her piety.” It pictures a mother pelican wounding herself to feed her young, representing the importance of Christian charity. The design was created in 1912 and modified with the addition of three drops of blood on the mother’s chest in 2006.

Maine’s state flag features its state seal on a blue background. The seal bears a shield with a moose resting under a pine tree surrounded by water and woods. On either side of the shield are a farmer and sailor, emphasizing the importance of agriculture and the sea to the people of Maine. Above this are the North Star and the state motto, *Dirigo*, which means “I lead.”

Maryland’s state flag honors the state’s founding family – the Calverts. The gold and black vertical bars make up the heraldic banner of George Calvert, the 1st Baron of Baltimore. The design represents his storming a fort during a battle, with the bars symbolizing the fence. The red and white “cross bottony” (cross with buds or buttons on the ends) is based on Calvert’s mother’s coat of arms.

Although the Massachusetts’ state flag has been in use since the American Revolution, it wasn’t officially adopted until 1908. The flag features a blue shield with an Algonquin Native American in the center. In his hands, the Native American holds a bow and arrow with the arrow pointed downward to signify peace. Above the shield is the state military crest with a bent arm holding a sword and the blade facing upward, reminding that liberty was

won through the American Revolution. Below the shield is the state motto, which translates, “By the sword we seek peace, but peace only under liberty.”

The state flag of Michigan displays the state’s natural beauty on a shield picturing a sunrise over a lake and peninsula. In this scene, a man stands with a gun, representing peace and the ability to defend his rights. The elk and moose are shown as a reminder of the state’s wild animals and the bald eagle represents the United States. In addition to the US motto, the flag features two other Latin phrases, *Tuebor* (“I will defend”) and the state motto, which translates to “If you seek a pleasant peninsula, look about you.”

Minnesota’s current state flag is largely based on the flag created in 1893 by Pauline Fjelde. Its current design was adopted in 1911. The flag features native wildflowers surrounding the state seal and a banner in French that translates to “The North Star.” It also includes three years: 1819 (settlement of Minnesota), 1858 (admitted as a state), and 1893 (adoption of the first state flag). The seal is surrounded by 19 stars that form the points of one large star, representing Minnesota’s place as the 19th state admitted to the Union after the original 13.

The Mississippi state flag was officially adopted in 1894. It was the only US flag to feature the battle flag of the Confederacy in 2009. In 2001, it was discovered that earlier state legislation had repealed the adoption of the design. A new design was created, replacing the Confederate battle flag, but was rejected, and the original flag remained.

Missouri’s state flag was created by Marie Elizabeth Watkins Oliver, wife of a state senator in 1913. It features red, white, and blue stripes, representing valor, purity, vigilance, and justice. In the center is the state seal, which pictures the Great Seal of the United States, grizzly bears to symbolize strength and bravery, and a crescent moon for the newness of statehood and possibility of growth.

Katharine Lee Bates wrote “America the Beautiful” in 1895, during a train ride to Colorado. Bates was so inspired by the sights she saw as she crossed America, she wrote this popular poem. One of these sights included wheat fields in Kansas that she described as “amber waves of grain.”

2009



Kentucky



Louisiana



Maine



Maryland



Massachusetts



Michigan



Minnesota



Mississippi



Missouri



US with Amber Waves of Grain

2008

Olympic Games – 42¢ The 2008 Summer Olympic Games, officially referred to as the Games of the XXIX Olympiad, took place between August 8 and August 24, 2008. The events were held at the Beijing National Stadium in Beijing in the People's Republic of China.

Celebrate – 42¢ The 2008 “Celebrate!” stamp was issued by the US Postal Service to acknowledge special occasions like birthdays, anniversaries, engagements, or other days worthy of a celebration. “Celebrate!” is the first US stamp issued to observe all special occasions.

Take Me Out to the Ball Game – 42¢ Baseball's unofficial anthem was written in 1908 by Jack Norworth with a melody by Albert Von Tilzer. Inspired by a sign on the subway that said, “Baseball Today – Polo Grounds,” Norworth got an idea for a skit involving a woman who was more of a baseball fan than the boys.

The Art of Disney: Imagination – 42¢ Imagination

was the theme of the fifth and final stamp set in the US Postal Service Art of Disney Series.

Steamboat Willie was Walt's first Mickey Mouse cartoon with sound. Released at New York's 79th Street Theater in 1928, it played as an opening cartoon for the film *Gang War* and was an instant success.

Sleeping Beauty was Disney's sixteenth animated film. Released in 1959, it was the last film Walt produced from a fairy tale.

His seventeenth film, *101 Dalmatians*, was released in 1961. It was based on a novel of the same name by Dodie Smith.

Based on a classic tale written by Rudyard Kipling, Disney's 1967 *Jungle Book* featured Mowgli, a child who was raised in a jungle by wolves.

***Valley of the Yosemite*, by Albert Bierstadt** – 42¢ Albert Bierstadt (1830-1902) captured the majesty of the American West in paint, glorifying its pristine landscapes, wild animals, and Native Americans. His painting, *Valley of the Yosemite* was the 8th issue in the American Treasures Series.

2008



Olympic Games



Celebrate



Take Me Out to the Ball Game



Pongo and Pup



Steamboat Willie



Valley of the Yosemite, by Albert Bierstadt



Princess Aurora and Fairies



Mowgli and Baloo

2008

Sunflower – 42¢ Sunflowers often grow to heights of eight to twelve feet. Shorter varieties are frequently used for cut flower arrangements, while large varieties provide brilliant splashes of color in outdoor gardens.

Bette Davis – 42¢ Bette Davis (1908-89) appeared in over 100 films, and was the first actress to receive ten Academy Award nominations.

Alzheimer's – 42¢ Every 72 seconds another American develops Alzheimer's disease. An especially cruel disease, Alzheimer's takes away the sufferer's memory and mind before it takes the body. The US Postal Service issued this stamp in its Social Awareness Series highlighting the importance of care givers to Alzheimer's patients.

Christmas – Traditional – 42¢ The Madonna has been featured on a US Christmas stamp almost every year since 1965. It is found again in 2008 with

Botticelli's *Virgin and Child with the Young John the Baptist*. Renaissance artist Sandro Botticelli (1445-1510) was born in Florence, Italy. Students may have painted parts of this masterpiece, which was created in Botticelli's large workshop around 1490.

Christmas – Contemporary – 42¢ The tradition of collecting nutcrackers has become popular in America only within the last 60 years. American soldiers stationed in Germany during World War II admired the craftsmanship of these enchanting figurines. They found humor in their expressions and lifelike characteristics. Brought back as a gift for loved ones, nutcrackers became a familiar collector's item and traditional keepsake to display during the holidays.

While 21st century nutcrackers are offered in countless varieties, collectors still favor the king and soldier most. These designs were made desirable over three centuries ago by talented German woodcrafters.

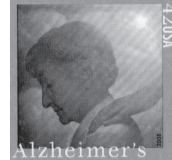
2008



Sunflower



Bette Davis



Alzheimer's Awareness



*Virgin and Child with
Young John the Baptist*



VERTICAL 2008

Drummer



VERTICAL 2008

Santa



VERTICAL 2008

King



VERTICAL 2008

Soldier

2009

Oregon Statehood – 42¢ On February 14, 1859, Oregon became the 33rd state admitted to the US. To mark the 150th anniversary of this event, the US Postal Service issued this stamp featuring a painting of a river surrounded by mountains.

Edgar Allan Poe – 42¢ The “father of the mystery novel” and one of America’s most beloved poets today, Edgar Allan Poe (1809-49) was an outcast in his own time. His intriguing stories and scientific theories led some to think he was mad. This 2009 US Postal Service stamp celebrated his 100th birth anniversary.

Richard Wright – 61¢ The 25th honoree in the US Postal Service’s Literary Arts Series, Richard Wright (1908-60) crafted controversial stories based on his impoverished childhood in Chicago. Most famous for his 1940 novel *Native Son* and 1945 autobiography *Black Boy*, Wright used protest writing and detective fiction as his inspiration in discussing the harsh racism in America during his lifetime.

Polar Bear – 28¢ Native to the Arctic Circle, polar bears are the world’s largest carnivores known on land. Although newborns weigh as little as one pound, adults often weigh more than 1,500 pounds.

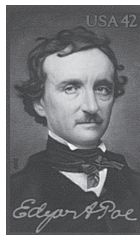
Purple Heart – 44¢ The Purple Heart is the United States’ oldest military honor still in use. It is given to men and women who have been hurt or killed in military action. The stamp pictures one of the two medals awarded to James Loftus Fowler of Alexandria, Virginia, who served in the Vietnam War.

US Flag – 44¢ Throughout America’s early history, the national flag evolved through several different designs. It was not until 1818 that it was decided the number of stripes would remain at 13 (in honor of the original 13 colonies) and the number of stars would reflect the number of states in the Union. In 2007, the 50-star flag became America’s longest-lasting design.

2009



Oregon Statehood



Edgar Allan Poe



Richard Wright



Polar Bear
(coil)



Purple Heart



MICRO USPS CNTR.

U.S. Flag
(coil)



DIE CUT 8½

U.S. Flag
(coil)

2009

Wedding Rings – 44¢ The fourth issue in the US Postal Service's Weddings Series, the 44¢ Wedding Rings stamp was issued for use on the response envelope sent out with wedding invitations.

The Simpsons – 44¢ In 2009, popular animated TV show *The Simpsons* became the longest-running comedy in the history of prime-time television as it began its 20th season. To mark the occasion,

the US Postal Service issued five postage stamps, picturing each of the starring family members, making it the first television show to be honored on a US stamp set while still airing in prime-time. *The Simpsons*, cartoon versions of creator Matt Groening's family, captivate audiences of all ages with intelligent political and social commentary paired with slapstick visual humor.

2009



Wedding Rings



Homer Simpson



Marge Simpson



Bart Simpson



Lisa Simpson



Maggie Simpson

2009

Love: King & Queen of Hearts – 44¢ The 2009 addition to the US Love Series (which began in 1973) features the King and Queen of Hearts. The stamp images are based on the art found on a set of 18th century French playing cards.

Bob Hope – 44¢ In 2009, television, film, radio, and stage entertainer Bob Hope (1903-2003) became the first person to be honored on a US stamp just five years after his death (the waiting period was changed from 10 years to five years in 2006). For nearly 60 years, Hope entertained audiences with his humor and golden voice and dedicated much of his career to humanitarianism and entertaining US troops serving overseas.

Celebrate – 44¢ For the third year in a row, the US Postal Service issued its Celebrate stamp, intended

to bring joy to birthday, anniversary, wedding, and other friendly greetings.

Anna Julia Cooper – 44¢ The 32nd honoree in the Black Heritage Series, Anna Julia Cooper (1858-1964) was a crusader of the Civil Rights movement as an educator, scholar, feminist, and activist. Cooper wrote America's first full-length book by an African American feminist and was the country's fourth African American woman to earn a PhD.

Gulf Coast Lighthouses – 44¢ The fourth US stamp issue commemorating the Lighthouses of America honored five lighthouses that endured some of the worst storms ever seen. Three of the Gulf Coast lighthouses were witness to the disastrous tropical hurricanes – Katrina, Rita, and Wilma.

2009



King of Hearts



Queen of Hearts



Bob Hope



Celebrate



Anna Julia Cooper



Matagorda Island, TX



Sabine Pass, LA



Biloxi, MS



Sand Island, AL



Fort Jefferson, FL

2009-2010

Gary Cooper – 44¢ The 15th honoree in the Legends of Hollywood stamp series, Gary Cooper (1901-61) made a name for himself portraying strong, silent cowboys on the silver screen. Throughout his career, Cooper won two Academy Awards and was nominated for five.

Christmas – Traditional – 44¢ Continuing the long tradition of honoring the Madonna and Child on a Christmas stamp, the 2009 issue features a painting by Giovanni Battista Salvi, also known as Sassoferrato, after the town of his birth. Sassoferrato's *Madonna and Sleeping Child* gently captures the love between mother and child.

Christmas – Contemporary – 44¢ Popular symbols of the Christmas season, a reindeer, snowman, gingerbread man, and toy soldier were the subjects of the 2009 Christmas stamps. During the holiday season, each of these can be found decorating homes, schools, stores, and wrapping paper.

Year of the Tiger – 44¢ A collection of daffodils represent traditions practiced in the Chinese Lunar New Year. Daffodils symbolize wealth

and prosperity in China. A stylized tiger was also shown on this year's Lunar New Year stamp, highlighting 2010 as the Year of the Tiger.

Vancouver Winter Olympics – 44¢ More than 2,500 athletes from 82 countries traveled to Canada to compete in the 21st Winter Olympic Games in 2010. The US led the overall medal standings, and host-nation Canada set a record for most gold medals.

Bill Mauldin – 44¢ A 23-year-old World War II Army private drew cartoons about the craziness and irony of war, featuring "dogface" soldiers Willie and Joe. The cartoonist, Bill Mauldin, was a sensation with his fellow soldiers. Mauldin was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for his excellence in showing the war through the eyes of the soldiers.

Love – Pansies in a Basket – 44¢ Pansies' purple petals have been a symbol of affection and love for thousands of years. Ancient Greek legends say the flower was created when an arrow shot by Eros (Cupid), the god of love, missed its target and struck a flower. The US Postal Service has been issuing Love-themed stamps since 1973.

2009-2010



Gary Cooper



Madonna and Child



Year of the Tiger



Reindeer



Snowman



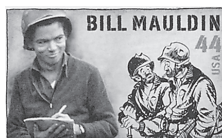
Gingerbread Man



Toy Soldier



Vancouver Winter Olympics



Bill Mauldin



Love

2010



Animal Rescue – Adopt a Shelter Pet – 44¢ This set of 10 stamps was issued to draw attention to the needs of animals in pet shelters. All 10 animals shown on the stamps found new loving homes.

2010



Jack Russell Terrier



Maltese Cat



Calico Cat



Yellow Labrador Retriever



Golden Retriever



Gray, White & Tan Cat



Black, White & Tan Cat



Australian Shepherd



Boston Terrier



Orange Tabby Cat

2010

Katharine Hepburn – 44¢ Smart, strong-willed, and beautiful, Katharine Hepburn was known as the “First Lady of Cinema.” With four Academy Awards for Best Actress, she is considered by many as the greatest American actress. She is the 16th person featured in the Legends of Hollywood Series.

Mother Teresa – 44¢ Born Agnes Gonxha Bojaxhiu in Albania in 1910, she was known to the world only as Mother Teresa. In 1946, the Roman Catholic nun felt a call to “help the poor while living among them.” For nearly 50 years she did exactly that, living in Calcutta, India, and aiding the poor, the sick, and the dying. She came to be known as “Blessed Teresa of Calcutta,” and her charitable works earned her the Nobel Peace Prize in 1979. Mother Teresa was made an honorary US citizen in 1996.

Winslow Homer – 44¢ One of America’s favorite artists was commemorated on a stamp for the second time. Winslow Homer’s *Boys in a Pasture* painting

served as the design for this year’s stamp.

Angel with Lute – 44¢ Italian artist Melozza da Forlì created the image shown on this stamp in 1480. The painting was part of a fresco on the ceiling of the Church of the Twelve Holy Apostles in Rome, commissioned by Pope Sixtus IV. The fresco was broken apart in 1711 when the church was remodeled, but several of the figures remained intact, such as this one. The fresco’s remnants are kept at the Vatican.

Christmas Contemporary – 44¢ The US Postal Service issued its first commemorative Forever stamp in 2010 with a Holiday Evergreens set of four. Pine cones and berries are shown from four different conifer (evergreen) trees – ponderosa pine, eastern red cedar, blue spruce, and balsam fir. Pine trees are frequently used for decoration in the holiday season months, a welcome splash of living greens during the cold, dreary months.

2010



Katharine Hepburn



Winslow Homer



Mother Teresa



Angel with Lute



Ponderosa Pine



Eastern Red Cedar



Balsam Fir



Blue Spruce

2010-2011

Lady Liberty and U.S. Flag – 44¢ Lady Liberty and the US Flag are two of America’s most recognizable symbols. The US flag has been a symbol of freedom for over 230 years. Lady Liberty was a beacon of hope to immigrants arriving in New York Harbor. The statue pictured on the stamp is a replica which stands in front of the New York Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas, Nevada. The Forever stamps were issued as coil stamps in December 2010 and booklet stamps in September 2011.

Kansas Statehood – 44¢ 2011 marked the 150th anniversary of Kansas statehood. The stamp pictures a metal windmill from the mid-19th century in the foreground and modern wind turbines in the background. Windmills harvest the prairie winds to provide electricity. The state is named for the Native Americans whose name meant “People of the Wind.”

Ronald Reagan – 44¢ February 16, 2011, would have been Ronald Reagan’s 100th birthday and was the day the Postal Service issued a stamp in his honor. America’s 40th president was known for bringing the Cold War to an end and lowering inflation. The “Great Communicator” was a successful actor in radio, film, and television before he became president. The stamp pictures *Rancho del Cielo* or Ranch in the Sky, the Reagans’ home near Santa Barbara, California.

Art Deco Bird – 5¢ The image of the art-deco bird with an envelope in its beak comes from the façade of the Oak Park, Illinois, Post Office. The building was designed by Charles E. White, a former associate of architect Frank Lloyd Wright. The stamp is intended for use by nonprofit organizations.

Neon Celebrate! – 44¢ This stamp was inspired by art director Phil Jordan’s visit to the Museum of Neon Art in Los Angeles. He wanted to use the vibrant colors and the Neon Celebrate! stamp gave him the perfect opportunity. Artist Michael Flechtner got his design ideas from a summer fireworks display. He bent glass tubing to form the letters and fireworks, then filled them with gas to make the colors. This is America’s first neon stamp.

Wedding Roses – 44¢ This stamp features two white roses lying on a piece of wedding correspondence. Renee Comet was the photographer for this design and the Wedding Cake stamp, both which went on sale in time for summer wedding invitations to be sent.

Purple Heart with Ribbon – 44¢ The Purple Heart is the world’s oldest military honor still in use. It is given to men and women who have been wounded or killed in military action. The stamp pictures one of the two medals awarded to James Loftus Fowler of Alexandria, Virginia, who served in the Vietnam War.

2010-2011



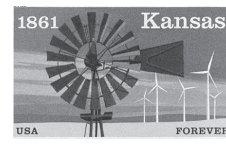
MICRO "4evR"

Lady Liberty

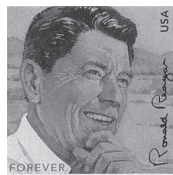


MICRO "4evR"

U.S. Flag



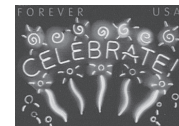
Kansas Statehood



Ronald Reagan



Art Deco Bird



Neon Celebrate!



Wedding Roses



Purple Heart with Ribbon



MICRO "4evR"

U.S. Flag



MICRO "4evr"

Lady Liberty



MICRO "4evr"

U.S. Flag



MICRO "4EVR"

Lady Liberty



MICRO "4EVR"

U.S. Flag

2011-2012

Christmas – Traditional – 44¢ The 2011 Traditional Christmas stamp features a painting by Italian artist Raphael. *Madonna of the Candelabra* was made around 1513 and pictures Mary and a young Jesus. The candelabra in the background represents the emperors of ancient Rome, and equates Jesus and Mary with the king and queen of Heaven.

New Mexico Statehood – 45¢ New Mexico became the 47th state of the Union on January 6, 1912. Issued to mark its centennial, this stamp pictures a landscape in northwestern New Mexico.

Bonsai – 45¢ These stamps celebrate the Japanese art of cultivating trees in pots. Each stamp shows a different style of shaping the plants including semi-cascade, formal upright, cascade, informal upright, and multiple-trunk style.

Four Flags – 45¢ The USPS continued the tradition of picturing the American flag on stamps. These images are accompanied by the words: Freedom, Liberty, Equality, and Justice. Three different printers supplied these stamps in two formats, coil and booklet.

2011-2012



Madonna of the Candelabra



New Mexico Statehood



Sierra Juniper – Semi-cascade



Black Pine – Formal Upright



Banyan – Cascade



Trident Maple – Informal Upright



Azalea Plant – Multiple Trunk



Equality



Justice



Freedom



Liberty

❧ 2012-2013 ❧

Cherry Blossoms – 45¢ In 1912, the city of Tokyo, Japan, gave more than 3,000 cherry blossom trees to Washington, DC. Every spring, millions of visitors come to the Tidal Basin to view the trees in bloom. The left stamp in the pair pictures a family dressed in traditional Japanese kimonos and the Washington Monument behind them. The stamp on the right shows the Jefferson Memorial with tourists strolling along the paths.

William H. Johnson – 45¢ William H. Johnson's painting *Flowers* is pictured on the 11th stamp in the American Treasures Series. Johnson is one of the country's leading African American artists. His primitive style of painting featured two-dimensional figures with bright colors.

War of 1812: USS *Constitution* – 45¢ This stamp is the first in a series commemorating the bicentennial of the War of 1812. The USS

Constitution was nicknamed "Old Ironsides" during the battle against the British *Guerriere*. The *Constitution* is the world's oldest commissioned warship still afloat.

Christmas – Contemporary – 45¢ This set of four contemporary Christmas stamps form a scene of Santa and his faithful reindeer ready to land on a snowy roof.

Spicebush Swallowtail – 66¢ The third issue in the popular butterfly series, the Spicebush Swallowtail stamp can be used especially for sending heavier greeting cards and irregularly shaped envelopes.

Where Dreams Blossom – 46¢ Flowers have long been a popular stamp subject, representing love and happiness. This stamp features a similar design to the Yes, I Do wedding stamp, for use on save-the-date notices, response cards, and thank you notes.

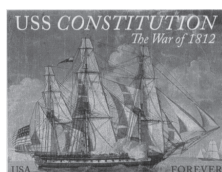
2012-2013



Cherry Blossoms



William H. Johnson



USS Constitution



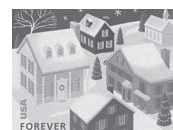
Reindeer and Moon



Sleigh



Reindeer on Roof



Village



Spicebush Swallowtail Butterfly



Where Dreams Blossom

2013

A Flag for All Seasons – 46¢ These four stamps feature an American flag flying at the top of a pole. The trees in the background display one of the four seasons on each stamp. Printed by Avery Dennison, these stamps are perforated 8½.

Johnny Cash – 46¢ Grammy-winner Johnny Cash was the second artist featured in the Music Icons Series. “The Man in Black” made his mark on country music as well as rock and roll, blues, folk, and gospel. The design used on the stamp was from the photo session for the album *Ring of Fire: The Best of Johnny Cash*.

West Virginia Statehood – 46¢ West Virginia celebrated its 150th anniversary of statehood in 2013. It is the only state to form as a result of separating from a Confederate state. The photo highlights the mountains that make up the region and inspired the motto: *Montani Semper Liberi* – Mountaineers are Always Free.

Bobcat – 1¢ This stamp pictures a digitally produced, stylized bobcat. Issued in self-adhesive form in 2012, this reprint has water-activated gum.

March on Washington – 46¢ August 28, 2013, marked the 50th anniversary of the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom. During the historic gathering, Martin Luther King Jr. delivered his famous “I Have a Dream” speech. The stamp commemorating the historic event was the last of three stamps issued in a civil rights set.

Christmas – Traditional – 46¢: A 16th-century painting by Jan Gossaert entitled *Virgin and Child in a Landscape* was the design for the 2013 traditional Christmas stamp. Gossaert is credited for bringing Italian Renaissance art to northern Europe.

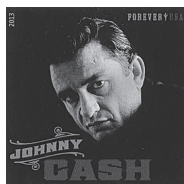
Poinsettia – 46¢ The poinsettia plant is native to Mexico and symbolizes good cheer. It first appeared on a stamp in 1964.

2013

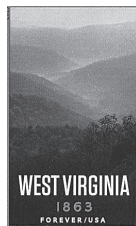


Perf. 8½

A Flag for All Seasons



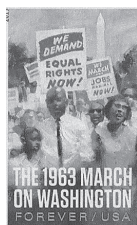
Johnny Cash



West Virginia Statehood



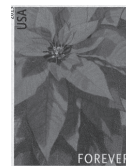
Bobcat
(coil)



March on Washington



Virgin and Child



Poinsettia

2013-2014

Christmas – Contemporary – 46¢ The four gingerbread houses photographed for these Christmas stamps were created specifically for the stamps. Each 10-inch-tall house is a similar shape, but the colors of the decorations are different.

Medal of Honor: World War II – 46¢ These stamps were issued to pay tribute to the 464 men who received the Medal of Honor during World War II. The US Postal Service created a new format, the prestige folio, for this stamp. The Army and Navy versions of the medals are featured on the stamps.

Cut Paper Heart – 46¢ Immigrants brought *scherenschnitte*, or traditional German paper-cutting, to the United States in the 18th and 19th centuries. The 2014 Love Series stamp is reminiscent of this delicate technique which once decorated fanciful love letters and early valentines.

Star-Spangled Banner – 49¢ The year 2014

marked the 200th anniversary of Francis Scott Key's poem that later became the United State's national anthem, "The Star-Spangled Banner."

While held aboard an enemy ship in September 1814, Key witnessed the day-long bombardment of Fort McHenry during the Battle for Baltimore. As morning approached on September 14th, he saw the 30 x 42-foot flag hoisted above the fort, inspiring the poem that all Americans know today.

Coils of 100 printed by Ashton Potter and vertically die cut 9.5. These stamps are microprinted "USPS" on the lowest white stripe of the flag near the flagpole.

Hummingbird – 34¢ Issued for use on postcards, the 2014 Hummingbird stamp portrays a stylized design of the tiny bird hovering near a plant. Some species of hummingbird beat their wings up to 80 times per second, causing the "humming" sound for which they are named.

❧ 2013-2014 ❧



RED

Gingerbread Houses



BLUE

Gingerbread Houses



GREEN

Gingerbread Houses



ORANGE

Gingerbread Houses



Medal of Honor – Army



Medal of Honor – Navy



Cut Paper Heart



Star-Spangled Banner
(coil)



Hummingbird
(coil)

2014

Great Spangled Fritillary – 70¢ Fourth in the butterfly series, the great spangled fritillary stamp can be used for mailing greeting cards or irregularly shaped envelopes.

Winter Flowers – 49¢ Bright blooms of winter are captured on the 2014 Winter Flowers stamps.

Amaryllises, known as *Hippeastrum* in the United States, are cousins of the daffodil. Given proper care, they can bloom several times in one season.

Cyclamen are native to the Mediterranean and go dormant in hot weather. In the United States, they come alive again in the cooler months of fall, winter and spring.

Paperwhites are easy-to-grow winter favorites. Growing best in plain water in warm indirect sunlight, the bulbs take only a month to blossom.

Christmas cacti are second to only poinsettias during the holidays. If well cared for, a Christmas cactus can live for decades.

Star-Spangled Banner – 49¢ During the War of 1812, Mary Pickersgill was commissioned to sew a flag “so large that the British will have no difficulty seeing it from a distance.” The Star-Spangled Banner, as it is now known, is today held

at the Smithsonian Institute. However, the flag that Francis Scott Key witnessed “at twilight’s last gleaming” was likely the smaller garrison flag, as the larger flag was not raised until the following dawn.

Nevada Statehood – 49¢ Nevada, or the “Battle Born State,” was hastily granted statehood in October, 1864, to help ensure President Lincoln’s re-election. The 36th state in the union, it is known for its rugged rural areas, deserts, forests, and mountains, as well as cities famous for gambling and quick marriages. The Postal Service commemorated the state’s 150th anniversary with the Nevada Statehood stamp picturing sandstone formations at Fire Canyon in its oldest state park, Valley of Fire.

Hot Rods – 49¢ Uniquely American, “hot rodding” started in the early days of the automobile. In the 1920s, young men began modifying their cars to be faster and fiercer than anything they could buy. By the 1950s, young veterans returning from WWII had taken the craze into its golden era.

Pictured on the Hot Rods stamps are two different angles of the 1932 Ford “Deuce” roadster, which was once a favorite model to work with.

2014



Great Spangled Fritillary



Star-Spangled Banner
(coil)



DIE CUT 11¼ x 11¼

Star-Spangled Banner



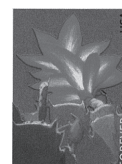
Amaryllis



Cyclamen



Paperwhite



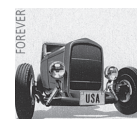
Christmas Cactus



Nevada Statehood



'32 Ford "Deuce" – Rear



'32 Ford "Deuce" – Front

2014-2015

Christmas – Traditional – 49¢ The 2014 traditional Christmas stamp depicts the Three Wise Men, or Magi, silhouetted against a purple sky illuminated by a single bright star. The stamp follows the same design style as the 2012 Holy Family stamp.

Forever Hearts – 49¢ The 2015 Love Series stamps feature the word “forever” written in the shape of a heart. The classic design was issued as a se-tenant with both red and white backgrounds, traditional Valentine colors.

Vintage Rose – 49¢ Details from a 17th century engraved plate by naturalist Maria Sibylla Merian were used for these 2015 Wedding stamps. The intaglio-printed design features a detailed rose on the one-ounce stamp. A tiny pink heart in the corner of the stamp adds a touch of color to the black and white designs.

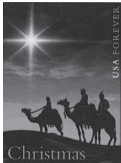
Water Lilies – 49¢ For the last thirty years of his life, French impressionist Claude Monet was captivated by the water lilies growing in his Asian water garden. He captured the flowers in painting after painting, showing the blooms at different

stages throughout the day. The same brightly colored water lilies are highlighted on these booklet stamps. Photographs taken at Kenilworth Park & Aquatic Gardens in Washington, DC, were used for the stamp art.

Special Olympics World Games – 49¢ Los Angeles, California, hosted the 46th annual Special Olympic World Games from July 25 through August 2, 2015. The USPS released this special stamp to commemorate the event. Started by Eunice Kennedy Shriver in the 1960s, the Special Olympics World Games celebrate the skills and accomplishments of intellectually disabled athletes from around the world.

Missing Children – 49¢ In an ongoing effort the USPS works with the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children to bring attention to the thousands of missing children in America. Photos of these young people are included in advertising materials that are distributed to millions of homes around the country. The 2015 Missing Children stamp features the forget-me-not flower, the symbol of International Missing Children’s Day.

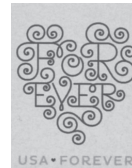
2014-2015



Christmas Magi



Forever Hearts



Forever Hearts



Vintage Rose



Pale Pink Water Lily



Red Water Lily



Purple Water Lily



White Water Lily



Special Olympics
World Games



Missing Children

2015-2016

Summer Harvest – 49¢ Four vintage-style stamps were designed for the Summer Harvest issue. The concept for the stamps was first proposed to LA-based artist Michael Doret back in 2002, but took 13 years to become a reality. Doret took inspiration from vintage fruit crate labels to design stamps that represent American fruits and vegetables.

Elvis Presley – 49¢ Sixth in the series, the 2015 Music Icons stamp features Elvis Presley (1935-1977). From humble beginnings, Elvis became one of the most famous and influential performers in music history. Known for his avant-garde style on stage, Elvis was a rather shy individual and remained grounded despite his immense fame. Throughout his career, Elvis regularly performed charity concerts and donated his time and money to different causes.

Quilled Paper Heart – 49¢ The 2016 Love Series stamp shows a colorful quilled paper heart. London-based artist Yulia Brodskaya created the piece especially for the stamp. Also known as paper filigree, quilling is a centuries-old art form that creates three-

dimensional works of art out of thin strips of paper.

Grapes – 5¢ This stamp features an ink and watercolor illustration of two bunches of pinot noir grapes, commonly used in wine-making. About 72 million tons of grapes are grown annually around the world. Today, over 70 percent of those grape crops are dedicated to wine production.

U.S. Flag – 49¢ The American Flag has been featured on many stamps over the years. This stamp’s design was based on a photograph taken by Emmanuel Faure. The red of the flag stands out against the light blue of the sky and creates a fine-looking image for this patriotic stamp.

Printed by Ashton Potter in coils of 100, with “USPS” microprinted on second white flag stripe.

USA Nonprofit – 5¢ The design for this nonprofit stamp features “USA” in bold, blue letters with a vivid red star after it. Antonio Alcalá and Leslie Badani co-designed this issue.

2015-2016



Watermelons



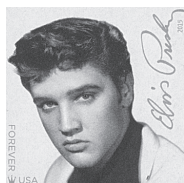
Sweet Corn



Cantaloupes



Tomatoes



Elvis Presley



Quilled Paper Heart



Grapes



MICRO USPS UNDER FLAG

U.S. Flag
(coil)



MICRO USPS 2nd WHITE STRIPE

U.S. Flag
(coil)



MICRO USPS UNDER FLAG

U.S. Flag
(booklet)



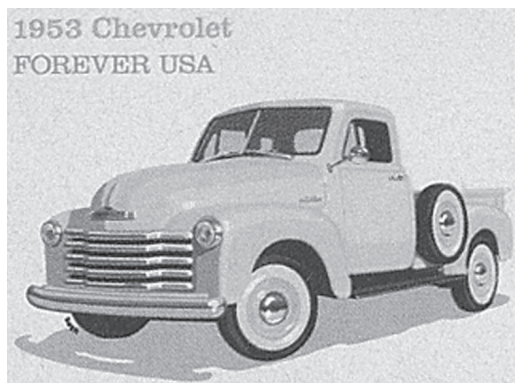
MICRO USPS 2nd WHITE STRIPE

U.S. Flag
(booklet)



USA Nonprofit

2016



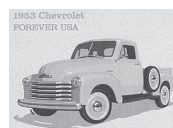
Pickup Trucks – 47¢ These stamps honor the rugged and reliable pickup trucks that helped build the America we know today. In the early 1900s, these vehicles were seen strictly as tools for completing work. But halfway through the century, people began buying pickups as part of a new lifestyle. Today, pickup trucks represent hard work and simple pleasures. These trucks and their history have become a lifelong part of the American spirit.

Songbirds in Snow – 47¢ Songbirds bring spots of color to gray winter days and fill the air with their cheerful songs. Each of these birds has evolved specially to allow them to thrive throughout the year, even in cold and snowy weather. The four stamp designs feature golden-crowned kinglets, cedar waxwing, northern cardinal, and red-breasted nuthatches. The images were taken from acrylic paintings by artist Robert Giusti.

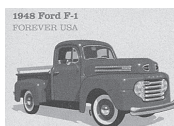
2016



1938 – International Harvester



1953 – Chevrolet



1948 Ford F-1



1965 Ford F-100



Gold-Crowned Kinglet



Cedar Waxwing



Northern Cardinal



Red-Breasted Nuthatch

2016-2018

Patriotic Spiral – 47¢ This Forever stamp pictures 50 red and blue stars surrounding a gold star. The colors of this issue reflect those of the American flag and provoke a feeling of national pride. According to the USPS, this design was meant to represent “our nation’s steadfast idealism and hope for a more perfect union.”

Nativity – 47¢ The Nativity stamp features all three members of the holy family (Jesus, Mary, and Joseph) with the sun rising in the background. It also depicts the famous Star of Bethlehem, which was responsible for leading the three magi to Jesus. Nancy Stahl was the illustrator for this stamp design.

U.S. Flag – 49¢ The American Flag has been featured on many stamps over the years. This stamp’s design was based on a photograph taken by Emmanuel Faure. The red of the flag stands out against the light blue of the sky and creates a fine-looking image for this patriotic stamp.

Patriotic Nonprofit – 5¢ To create the new Nonprofit stamp, the design from the 2016 stamp was made slightly smaller and given a blue border. The 2017 issue was designed by Antonio Alcalá, who had worked with Leslie Badani to create the 2016 stamp. There are over 1.5 million nonprofit organizations in the United States. They have existed for hundreds of years and, thanks to decades of donations and hard work by volunteers, are still able to help people today.

Love Flourishes – 49¢: One way people have expressed their love throughout history is with beautiful floral arrangements. This is reflected in the number of times flowers have been on stamps of the Love Series. One of the most interesting ways of giving flowers developed during the Victorian era. Both men and women wrote love letters during this period, and certain guidelines were developed to help express their feelings. Men customarily wrote their letters on plain paper while women’s letters could be more ornate, sometimes including ribbons, flowers, or a dab of perfume.

2016-2018



Patriotic Spiral
(coil)



Nativity



MICRO USPS 4th RED STRIPE

U.S. Flag
(coil)



MICRO USPS 2nd WHITE STRIPE

U.S. Flag
(coil)



MICRO USPS 4th RED STRIPE

U.S. Flag
(booklet)



MICRO USPS 2nd WHITE STRIPE

U.S. Flag
(booklet)



Patriotic Nonprofit
(coil)



Love Flourishes

2018-2020

U.S. Flag – 50¢ The United States has a long tradition of American flag stamps, and this stamp continued that tradition. The design features a folded US flag digital illustration by artist Kit Hinrichs. When a real US flag is folded, whether for a veteran’s funeral or other ceremonial purpose, the process is different than what appears on this stamp. The flag is folded lengthwise twice and then into triangles with the end result featuring the stars on top.

Peace Rose – 50¢ A new variety of rose was smuggled out of France by horticulturist Francis Meillard just before the Nazis invaded during World War II. Meillard sent cuttings of the rose to friends in Italy, Turkey, Germany, and the United States. Meillard’s friends grew the roses in a variety of climates and found they were hardy, vigorous, and disease resistant. The rose was made available to the American public on April 29, 1945, the day Berlin fell and a truce was declared. In a special ceremony, two doves were released and the rose was named for the “world’s greatest desire: peace.”

Hearts Blossom – 50¢: Many consider love to be the most powerful emotion we can experience. It can be romantic, platonic, familial, and much more. Every type of love has a measurable effect on how we live and experience the world around us. In fact, scientists

have found that people in happy relationships (whether it be a marriage, friendship, or close-knit family) receive long-term physical benefits from feeling love. It’s no wonder the annual Love stamp is always popular for use on wedding invitations, baby announcements, and other happy occasions.

U.S. Flag – 55¢ For members of the US Armed Forces, the American flag represents everything they stand for and is a reminder of home even when stationed far away. The 2019 US Flag stamp pictures Old Glory flying in front of a blue sky. Photograph taken by Antonio Alcalá at Chicago Navy Pier.

Let’s Celebrate! – 5¢ With all the holidays each year, plus special occasions like birthdays and anniversaries, there are always plenty of reasons to celebrate. In 2020, the USPS issued a new Forever stamp designed to be used on greeting cards and other celebratory mail. The stamp was issued on Valentine’s Day, when millions of greeting cards are sent across the United States. Valentine’s Day has been celebrated for hundreds of years and was first established as a religious day by Pope Gelasius I in 496 AD. Today, it is more of a cultural celebration centered around love. While it is mainly a holiday dedicated to the romantic expression of love, Valentine’s Day is also a day for friends and family to express their love for each other as well.

2018-2020



U.S. Flag
(coil)



U.S. Flag
(coil)



Peace Rose



Hearts Blossom



U.S. Flag
(coil)



U.S. Flag
(coil)



U.S. Flag
(booklet)



Let's Celebrate!

Semipostal Stamps



Obverse: Courtesy Gerald R. Ford Library

Semipostal stamps are issued to serve a double purpose. Priced higher than regular postage, they pay the current postal rate, but they also contribute a portion of their cost to a charitable cause.

The world's first Semipostals were issued in 1897 by New South Wales, a British colony that is now part of Australia. A surcharge over the regular postal rate was added to stamps commemorating Queen Victoria's diamond jubilee. The revenue generated by this

additional fee was used to build the Queen Victoria Home for Consumptives, for victims of tuberculosis. Those first Semipostals carried a surcharge equal to twelve times the normal postal value!

In 1997, the US Congress enacted a bill authorizing the Postal Service to issue the first US Semipostal stamp in 1998, to benefit breast-cancer research. By June of 2002, almost \$27 million had been raised through the sale of this stamp.

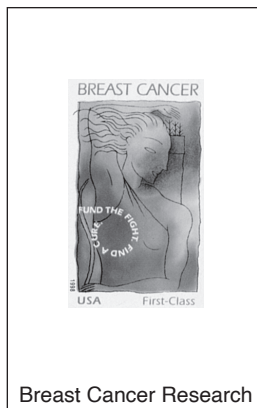
1998 Semipostal Stamp



Breast Cancer Research – 32¢ + 8¢, when issued in 1998: Breast cancer claims the life of one woman every 12 minutes in the United States, and more than 2.6 million women are living with the disease. One out of eight women are expected to develop breast cancer by the age of 80. In recognition of these statistics, the USPS has issued the first stamp in its history to have its proceeds earmarked for research organizations.

The Stamp Out Breast Cancer Act, which was signed into law on August 13, 1997, by President Bill Clinton, directed the Postal Service to create a special first-class postage stamp. This issue could be priced at 25 percent above regular first-class rates. Seventy percent of the value above the postal rate was for the National Institute of Health, and 30 percent for medical research by the Department of Defense.

1998
Semipostal Stamp



Airmail Stamps



Top: Early airmail envelopes. Above: Early airmail pilot Charles Lindbergh waits patiently as the mail is loaded onto his plane. Right: Colonel Lindbergh with his famous monoplane, the Spirit of St. Louis.

1932-1947

Airmail Stamps

Winged Globe – 8¢ Olive bistre. This new value stamp was issued to cover the airmail rate of 8¢ per ounce, which became effective July 6, 1932. The design was not changed from the previous airmail issue, only the denomination.

Winged Globe – 6¢ Dull orange. In June of 1934, President Roosevelt signed a bill reducing the airmail rate to 6¢ per ounce. A new airmail stamp was ordered from the Bureau of Engraving and Printing. The winged globe design was kept, but the color and denomination were changed.

American Bald Eagle – 6¢ Dark blue and carmine. This bi-colored 6¢ airmail stamp was issued in celebration of National Airmail Week, which commemorated the 20th anniversary of the very first government airmail flight.

A new set of airmail stamps of similar design made their appearance beginning in 1941. These stamps were intended to cover the various rates in effect for both domestic and overseas airmail service.

Twin-Motored Transport Plane – 6¢ Carmine. This issue covered domestic airmail service.

Twin-Motored Transport Plane – 8¢ Olive green. This issue was required when postage rates were increased to help finance WWII.

Twin-Motored Transport Plane – 10¢ Violet. This issue covered airmail service to areas in the West Indies, as well as Central and South America.

Twin-Motored Transport Plane – 20¢ Bright green. This issue was intended for use on trans-oceanic airmail.

Twin-Motored Transport Plane – 30¢ Blue. This issue was used on trans-oceanic airmail.

DC-4 Skymaster – 5¢ Carmine. In August of 1946, President Harry S. Truman signed an Act of Congress which reduced the domestic airmail rate from 8¢ per ounce to 5¢ per ounce.

DC-4 Skymaster – 5¢ Carmine. This stamp was issued to replace the previous airmail stamp. The post office wanted to provide a stamp in a size more suitable for coils, stamp vending machines, and booklets of stamps.

Statue of Liberty – 15¢ Bright blue green. Issued primarily for use on airmail material destined for Europe and parts of North Africa. The subjects of the design – The Statue of Liberty and New York City – were selected because New York was the major port of entry from these countries.

1932-1947

Airmail Stamps



Winged Globe



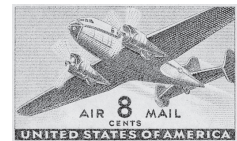
Winged Globe



Eagle Holding Shield



Twin-Motored Transport Plane



Twin-Motored Transport Plane



Twin-Motored Transport Plane



Twin-Motored Transport Plane



Twin-Motored Transport Plane



DC-4 Skymaster



DC-4 Skymaster



Statue of Liberty

1949-1968 **Airmail Stamps**

DC-4 Skymaster – 6¢ Carmine. Issued to conform to the increase of the airmail postage rate.

Eagle in Flight – 5¢ Red. Issued to conform to the new airmail postage rate for post cards.

Hawaii Statehood – 7¢ Rose red. The stamp illustrates a Hawaiian warrior extending a *lei* of welcome. The Territory of Hawaii was admitted as the 50th State of the Union and is America's only island state.

Abraham Lincoln – 25¢ Black and maroon. Issued primarily for use on airmail material destined for Asia, Australia, and most of Africa.

Statue of Liberty – 15¢ Black and orange. This is a modification of the previous Statue of Liberty airmail stamp. It was issued to make printing on the Giori press easier. The press had problems printing a gutter – which was not divided – between the design and the denomination of the stamp.

US Capitol and Jet Airliner – 8¢ Carmine. This stamp is identical to the previous issue, except it is a horizontal coil and is perforated on only two sides.

Bald Eagle – 6¢ Issued to conform to the new airmail rate for post cards.

Robert H. Goddard – 8¢ Commemorated Dr. Robert Hutchins Goddard, the American physicist who is regarded as the “father of the modern rocket.” In 1926, he developed and launched the first successful liquid-fuel rocket. He directed research for the Navy in World War II.

Alaska Purchase Centennial – 8¢ Celebrates the 100th anniversary of the US purchase of Alaska from Russia for \$7,200,000. Then-Secretary of State William Henry Seward made the purchase and earned Alaska the title of “Seward’s Folly.”

Audubon’s Columbia Jays – 20¢ The United States wanted to provide a distinctly American stamp for the 20¢ airmail rate to Europe and parts of Africa. Because the regular postal issue featuring Audubon’s work was so popular with the public, this design was selected for the airmail stamp.

Fifty Star Runway – 10¢ Issued to conform with the law which raised airmail postage rates effective on January 7, 1968.

1949-1968

Airmail Stamps



DC-4 Skymaster



Eagle in Flight



Map of Hawaii



Abraham Lincoln



Statue of Liberty



Airliner & Capitol Dome
(coil)



Bald Eagle



Robert H. Goddard



Tlingit Totem



Columbia Jays



50-Star Runway

1968-1976

Airmail Stamps

50th Anniversary of Airmails – 10¢ Marks the United States Airmail Service's 50th anniversary, which was born on May 15, 1918, when two 90-horsepower Curtiss Jenny airplanes departed from New York and Washington. During the first year of service, 1,208 flights were flown. Fifty-three were forced down by bad weather and thirty-seven by engine trouble. But the overall completion record was better than 92%.

USA – 20¢ This stamp was issued to replace the 20¢ Audubon stamp of 1967.

Moon Landing – 10¢ Commemorates man's first footstep on the Moon's surface by Neil Armstrong, Commander of the Apollo 11 mission. The first jumbo-sized commemorative issue, it celebrated "Moon mail;" the First Day Cover was the most popular ever.

Winged Airmail Envelope – 13¢ This issue was released in anticipation of an airmail postal rate increase from 11¢ to 13¢ for each ounce of domestic airmail.

USA – 21¢ Issued as part of the postal rate increase, this stamp signaled the raising of the international airmail rate from 20¢ to 21¢ per half-ounce to all parts of the globe except North and South America. It's identical in design to its predecessor, except that the denomination was changed and the colors reversed.

Olympic Games – 11¢ Issued to commemorate the Olympic Games – particularly the 11th Winter Olympic Games which were held in Sapporo, Japan.

Electronics Progress – 11¢ A salute to the progress made in electronics. Lee DeForest invented the audion, "a device for amplifying feeble electric currents." His invention resulted in the first radio broadcast in 1907, earning DeForest the name "Father of the Radio."

Plane and Globe – 25¢ Issued in compliance with the postal rate increase for international mail.

Plane, Globes, and Flag – 31¢ Issued in compliance with the postal rate increase for international mail.

1968-1976

Airmail Stamps



Curtiss Jenny



"USA" and Jet



First Man on the Moon – July 20, 1969



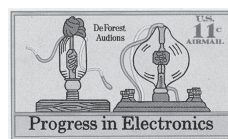
Winged Envelope



USA Airliner



Skiing and Olympic Rings



DeForest Audions



Plane and Globes



Plane, Globes, and Flag

1978-1991

Airmail Stamps

Wright Brothers – 31¢ Issued to commemorate the 75th anniversary of Orville and Wilbur Wright's historic first powered flight in 1903. This issue is the first in a series of international airmail stamps that honors American aviation pioneers and significant aviation developments.

Wright Brothers – 31¢ Issued as the second of a se-tenant pair (the first being the previous issue). On the first successful airplane flight, the plane and pilot weighed 750 pounds. The wings were wooden frames strung together with piano wire and spanned forty feet, six inches. Orville piloted the twelve horsepower, four-cylinder gasoline engine biplane on the first attempt – staying aloft twelve seconds and traveling 120 feet. But at noon on the same day, brother Wilbur set the day's record by flying 852 feet in 59 seconds.

Philip Mazzei – 40¢ Honors Italian-American patriot Philip Mazzei, who promoted American

independence through his writings published in America and Europe during the 18th century. He settled in America, befriended Thomas Jefferson, and contributed to the commerce of the colonies.

Aviation Pioneers – 33¢ Honors aviation pioneer Alfred Verville, who helped Glenn Curtiss design the famed Curtiss Jenny and the Curtiss twin-engined seaplane. In the early 1920s, Alfred Verville and Lawrence Sperry designed and produced three aircraft. The most famous was the Verville-Sperry Classic Trophy in 1924, at a record of 216 miles per hour. Nearly a half-century later, that plane was recognized by a panel of experts as one of the 12 most significant aircraft of all time.

William T. Piper – 40¢ Designer of the popular Piper Cub plane, he was called the “Henry Ford of Aviation” for developing and promoting low-cost aircraft.

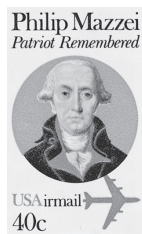
1978-1991 Airmail Stamps



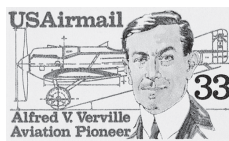
Orville & Wilbur Wright



Wright Brothers & Plane



Patriot - Writer



Aviation Pioneer



William T. Piper

2001-2012

Airmail Stamps

Mount McKinley – 80¢ Named for President William McKinley, Mount McKinley graces the fifth stamp in the Scenic American Landscape Series. The mountain is located in Alaska's Denali National Park and Preserve. It is the highest mountain in North America at 20,320 feet. The 80¢ stamp was issued in 2001 for letters weighing up to and including one ounce and mailed to all countries other than Canada and Mexico.

Acadia National Park – 60¢ The sixth Scenic American Landscapes Series stamp features Acadia National Park, which includes 45,000 acres of mountains, lakes, forests, and rocky shoreline in Maine. Acadia was the first national park created east of the Mississippi River. This 60¢ stamp, issued in 2001, replaced the 60¢ Grand Canyon stamp for letters weighing up to and including one ounce and being mailed to Canada or Mexico.

Bryce Canyon – 63¢ This stamp was issued to pay the 63¢ letter rate to Mexico and Canada in 2006. Bryce Canyon is located in southwestern Utah. It was named after the Mormon pioneer Ebenezer Bryce and established as a small National Park in 1924. Its unique geology consists of a series of horseshoe-shaped amphitheaters and spires formed in colorful limestone. This is the seventh issue of the Scenic American Landscapes Series.

Great Smoky Mountains – 75¢ The eighth Scenic American Landscapes Series stamp features the Great Smoky Mountains that lie in the Southern Appalachian Mountains of North Carolina and Tennessee. Among the oldest mountains in the world, they support an amazing diversity of life. The Great Smoky Mountains were also pictured in the 1934-35 National Park Series stamps. Seventy-

five cents paid the card rate for countries other than Mexico and Canada in 2006.

Yosemite National Park – 84¢ Yosemite, located in California, is shown on the ninth installment of the Scenic American Landscapes Series. This stamp satisfied the international letter rate in 2006. Yosemite is best known for its spectacular waterfalls, giant sequoia groves, and granite cliffs. Yosemite's granite formation "El Capitan" was featured in the 1934-35 National Park Series stamps.

St. John, US Virgin Islands – 94¢ St. John, one of the four main United States' Virgin Islands, was discovered by Christopher Columbus in 1493. On March 25, 1718, the first permanent European settlement was established by Danish planters on St. John at Coral Bay. Ownership was finally transferred to the US in 1917. Every year, millions of visitors are drawn to St. John's breathtaking beaches and its tropical climate. Nearly half of the island is part of the Virgin Islands National Park. Trunk Bay, located here, is featured on the 2008 US 94¢ stamp, the thirteenth in the Scenic American Landscape Series.

Lancaster County, PA – \$1.05 Lancaster County is the center of "Pennsylvania Dutch Country," a popular tourist destination. The region is home to an Amish community that maintains its traditional lifestyle. Visitors are often delighted to share the road with horse-drawn buggies and bring home Amish quilts, wooden furniture, and homemade baked goods. Pennsylvania has the most covered bridges in the world, with the highest concentration located in Lancaster County. Its 30 covered bridges are special attractions.

2001-2012 Airmail Stamps



Mount McKinley



Acadia National Park



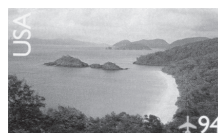
Bryce Canyon



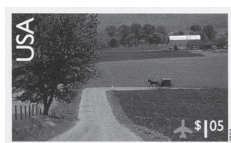
Great Smoky Mountains



Yosemite National Park



Virgin Islands



Lancaster County, PA

1927-1957

Special Delivery Stamps



On October 1, 1885, the Special Delivery service made its debut, and the US Postal Department issued a 10¢ stamp to inaugurate its new service. Used in addition to the regular postage required, this stamp paid for an extra service – the immediate delivery of a letter within one mile of any other Special Delivery post office.

Originally, Special Delivery offices were located only in cities with populations which exceeded 4,000. However, the venture was such a success, the service was extended to all areas in October 1886. Because the first Special Delivery issue bore the inscription “Secures immediate delivery at a Special Delivery office,” the stamp needed to be revised when this new act was put into effect. On September 6, 1888, a revised stamp, bearing the inscription “Secures immediate delivery at any post office,” was issued.

The trademark of these Special Delivery stamps was the running post office messenger, who was often referred to as the “Running Speedy Boy.” Interestingly, he is one of the few postal figures who was modeled after a living person. In order to get the proper running action, the engraver Charles Skinner used his young nephew, Frederick Pauling, as a model. During one session, Mr. Skinner was so engrossed in his work he didn’t realize the length of time the boy was forced to stand on one foot. Eventually, young Frederick became completely exhausted and collapsed to the floor. In 1902, the design was changed to picture a young messenger riding a delivery bicycle. Since then, various other designs have been used.

1927-1957 Special Delivery Stamps



PERF. 11 X 10½

Motorcycle Delivery



Hand-Delivered Letter

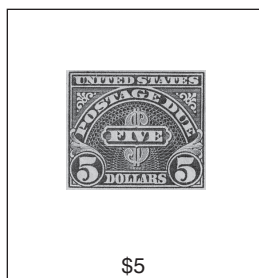
1930-1931 Postage Due Stamps



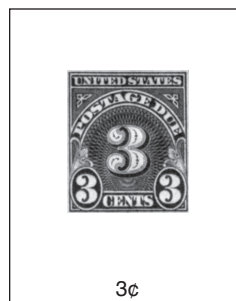
In 1930, the Bureau of Engraving and Printing changed the designs so that the numerals were featured in a half-circle.

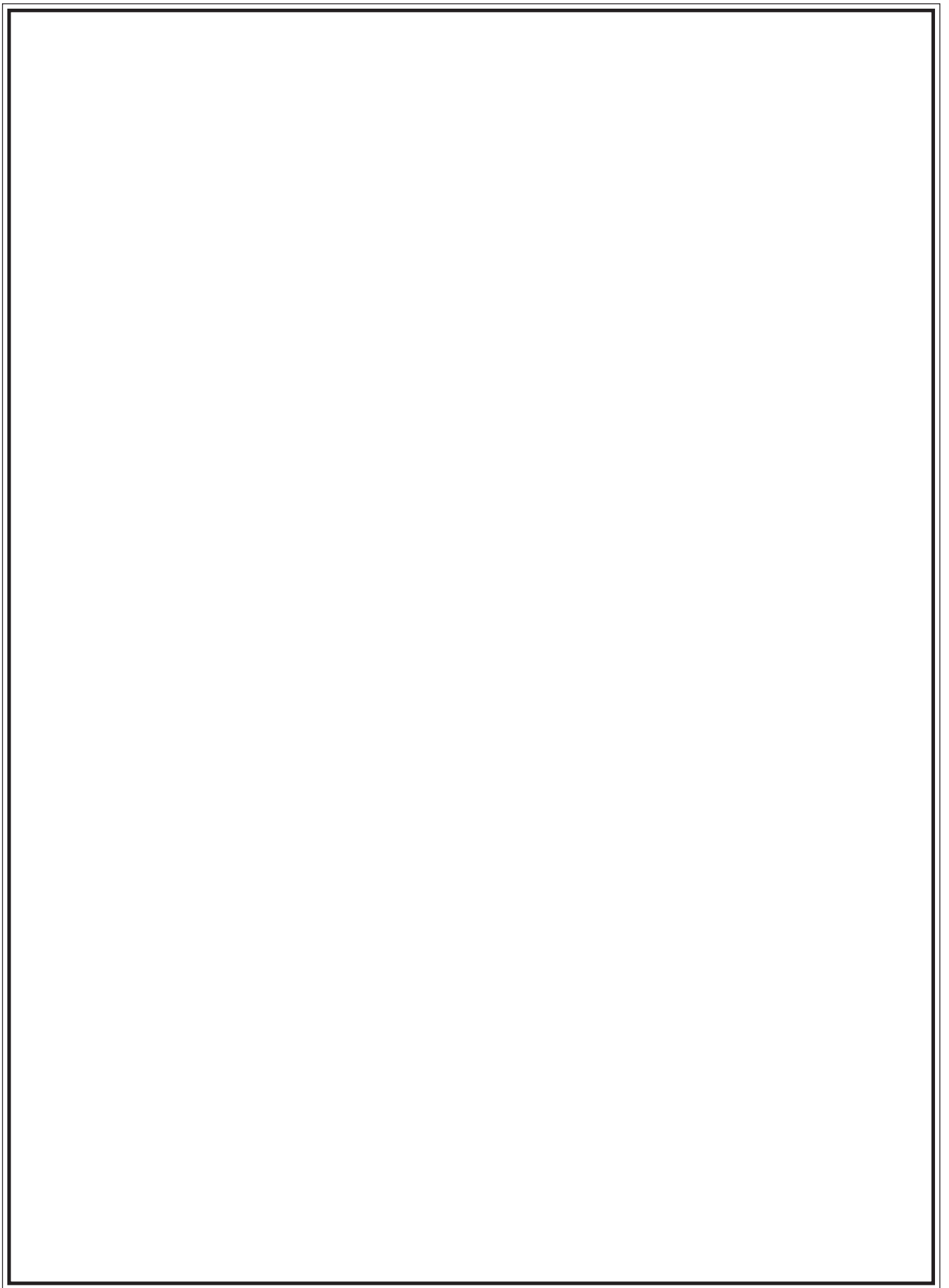
The following year, the Bureau of Engraving and Printing changed the format of some of the stamps slightly – a horizontal format was used as opposed to the vertical one used previously. The design remained the same, however.

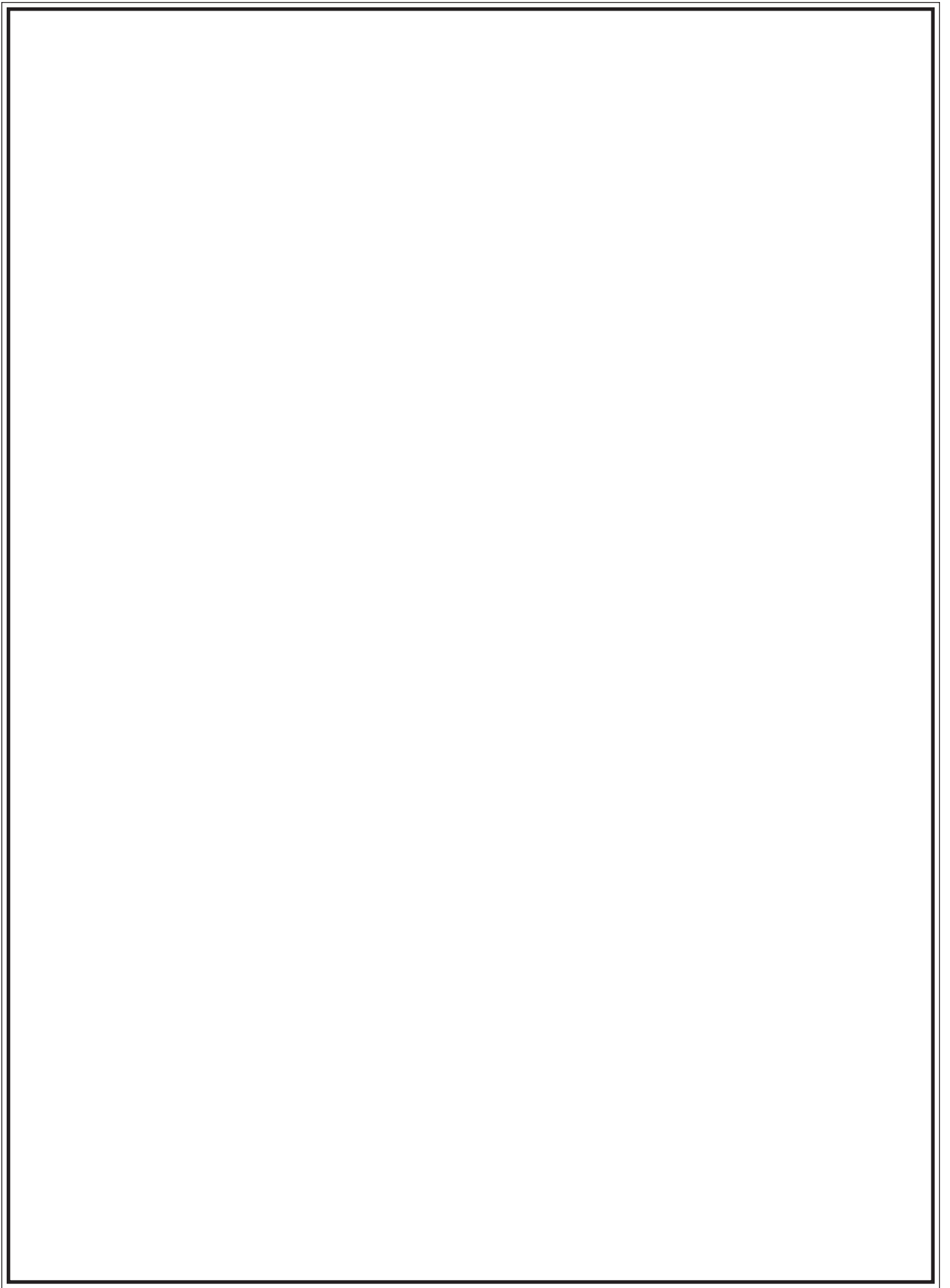
1930 Postage Due Stamps
Unwatermarked
Perforated 11



1931 Postage Due Stamps
Unwatermarked
Perforated 11 x 10½







12 Best Reasons to Collect Stamps

By Don Sundman

Is the World Better Off with More Stamp Collectors? Absolutely. Stamp collectors are positive people and better informed than non-collectors. Collectors know more because we've learned about the world, people, politics, and history from our stamps. We learned how the European empires were changed by World War I and World War II. We saw Africa's journey from colonial rule to independence on our stamps. We know who America's heroes are and why they are heroes.

I'm Don Sundman, president of Mystic Stamp Company. My whole life has been involved with stamps – my Dad showed me how important they are when I was just a kid. Stamps and collecting opened up a whole new world for me. I loved collecting stamps then and still do – how they look in my album, the history that goes with them, and knowing each tiny stamp has its own big story to tell.

Collecting stamps has made me a better person and given me a more interesting life. I'm seldom bored because there's always more to learn. I love spreading the joy stamp collecting has brought to my life and I'd like to share it with you.

Stamp Collecting improves our quality of life... It's the perfect activity as we mature and grow wiser. Collecting exercises our brain and there isn't anything more important to our quality of life than having a flexible mind.

Sometimes collectors say we're "working" on our stamps, but that's just a code word. We're really playing and having a great time while we discover more about our history, our country, and ourselves. Collecting is relaxing and stimulating. It'll make you a happier, healthier, more interesting person who gets more out of life.

Stamps Are Fun... Stamp collecting is fun because it's personal – there's no right way or wrong way. My most important advice is to collect what you like. You're in charge.

With stamp collecting, you're in complete control. Your stamp time is your own, to relax, escape the everyday routine, and expand your horizons. And stamp collecting always has something fun to offer... sorting, organizing, arranging and mounting your stamps, acquiring new ones, and discovering those behind-the-scenes stories that make stamp collecting so intriguing to smart people like us.

Collecting stamps is challenging and personally satisfying. You'll experience the thrill of the chase as you finally acquire that special stamp and then another and another. Whatever your interest, stamps provide you with an oasis of pleasure in an often hectic world.

Stamps Are History... Stamps are souvenirs of our past – history you hold in your hands. When we collect, we're preserving history for ourselves and future generations. Because of you and your collection, someday others will better understand the past, important social movements, or even our own time on earth. And because you took the time to chronicle the events of a past era of American history, or the heritage and customs of another nation, you're preserving knowledge.

Every time you open your album, stamps take you wherever you want to go in our nation's past... the plains of the Old West, the frontier of outer space, the White House, the American Revolution, the battlefields of the Civil War, and so much more.

Stamps Are Affordable... Imagine owning a genuine US postage stamp that's almost 130 years old for as little as 60¢, like the one illustrated to the right!

A stamp's price depends on how many were issued, how many survive today, and how many have been snapped up into permanent collections. That means even very old stamps can be affordable, especially in postally used condition. Used stamps have a history and romance all their own. Who knows where they've been and what big news of the day they've carried? They could even have been used by a president, prominent scientist, or beloved entertainer – the possibilities are endless. And you can afford all this history.

Stamps Are Valuable... Some stamps are tremendously valuable. A stamp may be worth thousands of dollars because it has a tiny printing error, or because only a few examples survive. These stamps are fun to look at and dream about, and maybe own one day. We all imagine owning a great stamp rarity or finding a stamp error hiding in our



*128 years old
Only 60¢ in Used Condition!*



collection. But even if you or I never discover a stamp error, we can own hundreds or even thousands of beautiful and important stamps. Best of all, stamps give us the gift of a fun and healthy hobby. And that means stamps are priceless.

Quality stamps can grow in value. The unique plate number block of the famous Jenny invert sold for almost \$3 million dollars in 2005. A single Jenny invert sells for \$300,000 to \$1 million as I write this.

Stamps Are Travel... Stamps trigger our imagination – allowing us to transport ourselves around the world. They show us traveling the globe as well as taking our first steps into outer space... exploring the frigid ice fields of Antarctica and the eerily beautiful landscapes of the moon; celebrating the diversity of America from Hawaii north to Alaska, with the variety of 48 great states in between; discovering the Pacific Ocean and blasting off aboard the space shuttle; flying across the Atlantic to Paris with Lindbergh and floating above the clouds in the lighter-than-air ship *Graf Zeppelin*. Satisfy your wanderlust just by opening your album.

Stamps Are Art... Owning a stamp collection is like having your own miniature art gallery. Many older US stamps are masterpieces of the engraver's art, while modern stamps use innovative designs and computer images.

US stamps exhibit the work of artists like Rockwell, O'Keeffe, Max, Homer, and Remington, to name just a few. The portrait of every late US president is found on at least one US stamp. You're preserving all these works of art.

Stamps Are Important... This is the world's first stamp, the stamp that started a communication revolution. In 1840, Great Britain cut the price to send a letter by half! Mail volume more than doubled in the year following the issue of the "Penny Black." Commerce boomed, pushed by faster and cheaper communication.

Stamps are important not only because they enable us to communicate through letters; they're a statement about who we are as Americans. They're symbols of our struggles and our strengths – of victory in war, progress in peace, and faith in the future.

Stamps Reflect Who We Are... Like tiny mirrors, stamps reflect our history, our heritage and heroes, as well as our culture and achievements. They reflect what we as Americans feel is important, who we honor and what events have shaped our lives. They honor our accomplishments, hopes and dreams... conquering space, discovering medical cures, preserving our environment, making the world a more peaceful place.

Stamps are a way to learn more about our history, ourselves, and how we came together to form this wonderful country that gives so much to people in crisis around the world.

Stamp Collecting Exercises Your Brain... Why are stamp collectors smarter? Because smart people are attracted to stamps and their important history and interesting stories. And because stamp collecting uses our brain and expands our mind. "Anything that stimulates the brain to think" is good for us says Dr. Amir Soas of Case Western Reserve University Medical School in Cleveland.

Stamp collectors have known for generations that to keep something in great shape, we need to use it. Stamp collecting exercises our brain while we're having fun, discovering the world around us, and broadening our horizons. Stamp collecting energizes our mind and fires up our brain cells.

Stamp collectors live a long, happy and healthy life... Nazi hunter and stamp collector Simon Wiesenthal lived 95 years. In 1948, unable to sleep from the anxiety he felt tracking former Nazis, Wiesenthal visited his doctor. "He suggested that I do something at night to take my mind off my troubles, and that's how I began collecting postage stamps," Wiesenthal explained. "My hobby has since given me many pleasant hours and helped me to meet people in many countries." Wiesenthal is typical of collectors who live a happier and healthier life. I know of many collectors active into their 80s and 90s.

Hobbies are good for our health because they help lower stress and depression and keep us part of an active social community. Stamp collecting can be pursued without spending much money, doesn't require specialized tools, and there are many stamp groups (including on line) to keep us involved with life no matter what our age. Mental stimulation is good for exercising our brains, too.

